

四级仔细阅读 2006 年 12 月-2013 年 6 月

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2006 年 12 月

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

Reaching new peaks of popularity in North America is Iceberg Water, which is harvested from icebergs off the coast of Newfoundland, Canada.

Arthur von Wiesenberger, who carries the title Water Master, is one of the few water critics in North America. As a boy, he spent time in the larger cities of Italy, France and Switzerland, where bottled water is consumed daily. Even then, he kept a water journal, noting the brands he liked best. "My dog could tell the difference between bottled and tap water," he says.

But is plain tap water all that bad? Not at all. In fact, New York's municipal water for more than a century was called the champagne of tap water and until recently considered among the best in the world in terms of both taste and purity. Similarly, a magazine in England found that tap water from the Thames River tasted better than several leading brands of bottled water that were 400 times more expensive.

Nevertheless, soft-drink companies view bottled water as the next battle-ground for market share—this despite the fact that over 25 percent of bottled water comes from tap water: PepsiCo's Aquafina and Coca-Cola's Dasani are both purified tap water rather than spring water.

As diners thirst for leading brands, bottlers and restaurateurs salivate(垂涎) over the profits. A restaurant's typical mark-up on wine is 100 to 150 percent, whereas on bottled water it's often 300 to 500 percent. But since water is much cheaper than wine, and many of the fancier brands aren't available in stores, most diners don't notice or care.

As a result, some restaurants are turning up the pressure to sell bottled water. According to an article in The Street Journal, some of the more shameless tactics include placing attractive bottles on the table for a visual sell, listing brands on the menu without prices, and pouring bottled water without even asking the diners if they want it.

Regardless of how it's sold, the popularity of bottled water taps into our desire for better health, our wish to appear cultivated, and even a longing for lost purity.

57. What do we know about Iceberg Water from the passage?

- A) It is a kind of iced water. B) It is just plain tap water.
C) It is a kind of bottled water. D) It is a kind of mineral water.

58. By saying "My dog could tell the difference between bottled and tap water" (Line 4 Para. 2), von Wiesenberger wants to convey the message that _____.
A) plain tap water is certainly unfit for drinking
B) bottled water is clearly superior to tap water
C) bottled water often appeals more to dogs' taste
D) dogs can usually detect a fine difference in taste
59. The "fancier brands" (Line 3 Para. 5) refers to _____.
A) tap water from the Thames River B) famous wines not sold in ordinary stores
C) PepsiCo's Aquafina and Coca-Cola's Dasani
D) expensive bottled water with impressive names
60. Why are some restaurants turning up the pressure to sell bottled water?
A) Bottled water brings in huge profits.
B) Competition from the wine industry is intense.
C) Most diners find bottled water affordable.
D) Bottled water satisfied diners' desire to fashionable.
61. According to passage, why is bottled water so popular?
A) It is much cheaper than wine. B) It is considered healthier.
C) It appeals to more cultivated people.
D) It is more widely promoted in the market.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

As we have seen, the focus of medical care in our society has been shifting from curing disease to preventing disease—especially in terms of changing our many unhealthy behaviors, such as poor eating habits, smoking, and failure to exercise. The line of thought involved in this shift can be pursued further. Imagine a person who is about the right weight, but does not eat very nutritious(有营养的) foods, who feels OK but exercises only occasionally, who goes to work every day, but is not an outstanding worker, who drinks a few beers at home most nights but does not drive while drunk, and who has no chest pains or abnormal blood counts, but sleeps a lot and often feels tired. This person is not ill. He may not even be at risk for any particular disease. But we can imagine that this person could be a lot healthier.

The field of medicine has not traditionally distinguished between someone who is merely "not ill" and someone who is in excellent health and pays attention to the body's special needs. Both types have simply been called "well." In recent years, however, some health specialists have begun to apply the terms "well" and "wellness" only to those who are actively striving to maintain and improve their health. People who are well are concerned with nutrition and exercise, and they make a point of monitoring their body's condition. Most important, perhaps, people who are well take active responsibility for all matters related to their health. Even people who have a physical disease or handicap(缺陷) may be "well," in this new sense, if they make an effort to maintain the best possible health they can in the face of their physical limitations. "Wellness" may perhaps best be viewed not as a state that

people can achieve, but as an ideal that people can strive for. People who are well are likely to be better able to resist disease and to fight disease when it strikes. And by focusing attention on healthy ways of living, the concept of wellness can have a beneficial impact on the ways in which people face the challenges of daily life.

62. Today medical care is placing more stress on _____.

- A) keeping people in a healthy physical condition
- B) monitoring patients' body functions
- C) removing people's bad living habits
- D) ensuring people's psychological well-being

63. In the first paragraph, people are reminded that _____.

- A) good health is more than not being ill
- B) drinking, even if not to excess, could be harmful
- C) regular health checks are essential to keeping fit
- D) prevention is more difficult than cure

64. Traditionally, a person is considered "well" if he _____.

- A) does not have any unhealthy living habits
- B) does not have any physical handicaps
- C) is able to handle his daily routines
- D) is free from any kind of disease

65. According to the author, the true meaning of "wellness" is for people _____.

- A) to best satisfy their body's special needs
- B) to strive to maintain the best possible health
- C) to meet the strictest standards of bodily health
- D) to keep a proper balance between work and leisure

66. According to what the author advocates, which of the following groups of people would be considered healthy?

- A) People who have strong muscles as well as slim figures.
- B) People who are not presently experiencing any symptoms of disease.
- C) People who try to be as possible, regardless of their limitations.
- D) People who can recover from illness even without seeking medical care.

2007 年 6 月

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

I've been writing for most of my life. The book *Writing Without Teachers* introduced me to one distinction and one practice that has helped my writing processes tremendously. The distinction is between the creative mind and the critical mind. While you need to employ both to get to a finished result, they cannot work in parallel no matter how much we might like to think so.

Trying to criticize writing on the fly is possibly the single greatest barrier to writing that most of us encounter. If you are listening to that 5th grade English teacher correct your grammar while you are trying to capture a fleeting(稍纵即逝的) thought, the thought will die. If you capture the fleeting thought and simply share it with the world in raw form, no one is likely to understand. You must learn to create first and then criticize if you want to make writing the tool for thinking that it is.

The practice that can help you past your learned bad habits of trying to edit as you write is what Elbow calls "free writing." In free writing, the objective is to get words down on paper non-stop, usually for 15-20 minutes. No stopping, no going back, no criticizing. The goal is to get the words flowing. As the words begin to flow, the ideas will come from the shadows and let themselves be captured on your notepad or your screen.

Now you have raw materials that you can begin to work with using the critical mind that you've persuaded to sit on the side and watch quietly. Most likely, you will believe that this will take more time than you actually have and you will end up staring blankly at the pages as the deadline draws near.

Instead of staring at a blank start filling it with words no matter how bad. Halfway through your available time, stop and rework your raw writing into something closer to finished product. Move back and forth until you run out of time and the final result will most likely be far better than your current practices.

57. When the author says the creative mind and the critical mind "cannot work in parallel" (Line 4, Para. 1) in the writing process, he means _____.

- A) no one can be both creative and critical
- B) they cannot be regarded as equally important
- C) they are in constant conflict with each other

- D) one cannot use them at the same time
58. What prevents people from writing on is _____.
A) putting their ideas in raw form B) attempting to edit as they write
C) ignoring grammatical soundness D) trying to capture fleeting thoughts
59. What is the chief objective of the first stage of writing?
A) To organize one's thoughts logically. B) To choose an appropriate topic.
C) To get one's ideas down. D) To collect raw materials.
60. One common concern of writers about "free writing" is that _____.
A) it overstresses the role of the creative mind
B) it takes too much time to edit afterwards
C) it may bring about too much criticism
D) it does not help them to think clearly
61. In what way does the critical mind help the writer in the writing process?
A) It refines his writing into better shape.
B) It helps him to come up with new ideas.
C) It saves the writing time available to him.
D) It allows him to sit on the side and observe.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

I don't ever want to talk about being a woman scientist again. There was a time in my life when people asked constantly for stories about what it's like to work in a field dominated by men. I was never very good at telling those stories because truthfully I never found them interesting. What I do find interesting is the origin of the universe, the shape of space-time and the nature of black holes.

At 19, when I began studying astrophysics, it did not bother me in the least to be the only woman in the classroom. But while earning my Ph.D. at MIT and then as a post-doctor doing space research, the issue started to bother me. My every achievement - jobs, research papers, awards - was viewed through the lens of gender(性别) politics. So were my failures. Sometimes, when I was pushed into an argument on left brain versus(相对于) right brain, or nature versus nurture(培育), I would instantly fight fiercely on my behalf and all womankind.

Then one day a few years ago, out of my mouth came a sentence that would eventually become my reply to any and all provocations: I don't talk about that anymore. It took me 10 years to get back the confidence I had at 19 and to realize that I didn't want to deal with gender issues. Why should curing sexism be yet another terrible burden on every female scientist? After all, I don't study sociology or political theory.

Today I research and teach at Barnard, a women's college in New York City. Recently, someone asked me how many of the 45 students in my class were women. You cannot imagine my satisfaction at being able to answer, 45. I know some of my students worry how they will manage their scientific research and a desire for children. And I don't dismiss those concerns. Still, I don't tell them "war" stories. Instead, I have given them this: the visual of their physics professor heavily pregnant doing physics experiments. And in turn they have

given me the image of 45 women driven by a love of science. And that's a sight worth talking about.

62. Why doesn't the author want to talk about being a woman scientist again?

- A) She feels unhappy working in male-dominated fields.
- B) She is fed up with the issue of gender discrimination.
- C) She is not good at telling stories of the kind.
- D) She finds space research more important.

63. From Paragraph 2, we can infer that people would attribute the author's failures to _____.

- A) the very fact that she is a woman
 - B) her involvement in gender politics
 - C) her over-confidence as a female astrophysicist
 - D) the burden she bears in a male-dominated society
64. What did the author constantly fight against while doing her Ph.D. and post-doctoral research?

- A) Lack of confidence in succeeding in space science.
- B) Unfair accusations from both inside and outside her circle.
- C) People's stereotyped attitude toward female scientists.
- D) Widespread misconceptions about nature and nurtured.

65. Why does the author feel great satisfaction when talking about her class?

- A) Female students no longer have to bother about gender issues.
- B) Her students' performance has brought back her confidence.
- C) Her female students can do just as well as male students.
- D) More female students are pursuing science than before.

66. What does the image the author presents to her students suggest?

- A) Women students needn't have the concerns of her generation.
- B) Women have more barriers on their way to academic success.
- C) Women can balance a career in science and having a family.
- D) Women now have fewer problems pursuing a science career.

2007 年 12 月

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

By almost any measure, there is a boom in Internet-based instruction. In just a few years, 34 percent of American universities have begun offering some form of distance learning (DL), and among the larger schools, it's closer to 90 percent. If you doubt the popularity of the trend, you probably haven't. It enrolls 90,000 students, a statistic used to support its claim to be the largest private university in the country.

While the kinds of instruction offered in these programs will differ, DL usually signifies a course in which the instructors post syllabi(课程大纲), reading assignments, and schedules on Websites, and students send in their assignments by e-mail. Generally speaking, face-to-face communication with an instructor is minimized or eliminated altogether.

The attraction for students might at first seem obvious. Primarily, there's the convenience promised by courses on the Net: you can do the work, as they say, in your pajamas(睡衣). But figures indicate that the reduced effort results in a reduced commitment to the course. While dropout rates for all freshmen at American universities is around 20 percent, the rate for online students is 35 percent. Students themselves seem to understand the weaknesses inherent in the setup. In a survey conducted for eCornell, the DL division of Cornell University, less than a third of the respondents expected the quality of the online course to be as good as the classroom course.

Clearly from the schools' perspective, there's a lot of money to be saved. Although some of the more ambitious programs require new investments in servers and networks to support collaborative software, most DL courses can run on existing or minimally upgraded(升级) systems. The more students who enroll in a course but don't come to campus, the more the school saves on keeping the lights on in the classrooms, paying doorkeepers, and maintaining parking lots. And there's evidence that instructors must work harder to run a DL course for a variety of reasons, won't be paid any more, and might well be paid less.

57. What is the most striking feature of the University of Phoenix?

- A) All its courses are offered online. B) Its online courses are of the best quality.
- C) It boasts the largest number of students on campus.
- D) Anyone taking its online courses is sure to get a degree.

58. According to the passage, distance learning is basically characterized by _____.

- A) A considerable flexibility in its academic requirements
 - B) The great diversity of students' academic backgrounds
 - C) A minimum or total absence of face-to-face instruction
 - D) The casual relationship between students and professors
59. Many students take Internet-based courses mainly because they can _____.
 A) Earn their academic degrees with much less effort
 B) Save a great deal on traveling and boarding expenses
 C) Select courses from various colleges and universities
 D) Work on the required courses whenever and wherever
60. What accounts for the high drop-out rates for online students?
 A) There is no strict control over the academic standards of the courses.
 B) The evaluation system used by online universities is inherently weak.
 C) There is no mechanism to ensure that they make the required effort.
 D) Lack of classroom interaction reduces the effectiveness of instruction.
61. According to the passage, universities show great enthusiasm for DL programs for the purpose of _____.
 A) building up their reputation B) cutting down on their expenses
 C) upgrading their teaching facilities D) providing convenience for students

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

In this age of Internet chat, videogames and reality television, there is no shortage of mindless activities to keep a child occupied. Yet, despite the competition, my 8-year-old daughter Rebecca wants to spend her leisure time writing short stories. She wants to enter one of her stories into a writing contest, a competition she won last year.

As a writer I know about winning contests, and about losing them. I know what it is like to work hard on a story only to receive a rejection slip from the publisher. I also know the pressures of trying to live up to a reputation created by previous victories. What if she doesn't win the contest again? That's the strange thing about being a parent. So many of our own past scars and dashed hopes can surface.

A revelation(启示) came last week when I asked her, "Don't you want to win again?" "No," she replied, "I just want to tell the story of an angel going to first grade."

I had just spent weeks correcting her stories as she spontaneously(自由地) told them. Telling myself that I was merely an experienced writer guiding the young writer across the hall, I offered suggestions for characters, conflicts and endings for her tales. The story about a fearful angel starting first grade was quickly "guided" by me into the tale of a little girl with a wild imagination taking her first music lesson. I had turned her contest into my contest without even realizing it.

Staying back and giving kids space to grow is not as easy as it looks. Because I know very little about farm animals who use tools or angels who go to first grade, I had to accept the fact that I was co-opting(借用) my daughter's experience.

While stepping back was difficult for me, it was certainly a good first step that I will

quickly follow with more steps, putting myself far enough away to give her room but close enough to help if asked. All the while I will be reminding myself that children need room to experiment, grow and find their own voices.

62. What do we learn from the first paragraph?

- A) Children do find lots of fun in many mindless activities.
- B) Rebecca is much too occupied to enjoy her leisure time.
- C) Rebecca draws on a lot of online materials for her writing.
- D) A lot of distractions compete for children's time nowadays.

63. What did the author say about her own writing experience?

- A) She did not quite live up to her reputation as a writer.
- B) Her way to success was full of pains and frustrations.
- C) She was constantly under pressure of writing more.
- D) Most of her stories had been rejected by publishers.

64. Why did Rebecca want to enter this year's writing contest?

- A) She believed she possessed real talent for writing.
- B) She was sure of winning with her mother's help.
- C) She wanted to share her stories with readers.
- D) She had won a prize in the previous contest.

65. The author took great pains to refine her daughter's stories because _____.

- A) she wanted to help Rebecca realize her dreams of becoming a writer
- B) she was afraid Rebecca's imagination might run wild while writing
- C) she did not want to disappoint Rebecca who needed her help so much
- D) she believed she had the knowledge and experience to offer guidance

66. What's the author's advice for parents?

- A) A writing career, though attractive, is not for every child to pursue.
- B) Children should be allowed freedom to grow through experience.
- C) Parents should keep an eye on the activities their opinions.
- D) Children should be given every chance to voice their opinions.

2008 年 6 月

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

Global warming may or may not be the great environmental crisis of the 21st century, but regardless of whether it is or isn't - we won't do much about it. We will argue over it and may even, as a nation, make some fairly solemn-sounding commitments to avoid it. But the more dramatic and meaningful these commitments seem, the less likely they are to be observed.

Al Gore calls global warming an "inconvenient truth," as if merely recognizing it could put us on a path to a solution. But the real truth is that we don't know enough to relieve global warming, and - without major technological breakthroughs - we can't do much about it.

From 2003 to 2050, the world's population is projected to grow from 6.4 billion to 9.1 billion, a 42% increase. If energy use per person and technology remain the same, total energy use and greenhouse gas emissions (mainly, CO₂) will be 42% higher in 2050. But that's too low, because societies that grow richer use more energy. We need economic growth unless we condemn the world's poor to their present

Poverty and freeze everyone else's living standards. With modest growth, energy use and greenhouse emissions more than double by 2050.

No government will adopt rigid restrictions on economic growth and personal freedom (limits on electricity usage, driving and travel) that might cut back global warming. Still, politicians want to show they're "doing something" Consider the Kyoto Protocol(京都议定书). It allowed countries that joined to punish those that didn't. But it hasn't reduced CO₂ emissions (up about 25% since 1990), and many signatories(签字国) didn't adopt tough enough policies to hit their 2008-2012 targets.

The practical conclusion is that if global warming is a potential disaster, the only solution is new technology. Only an aggressive research and development program might find ways of breaking our dependence on fossil fuels or dealing with it.

The trouble with the global warming debate is that it has become a moral problem when it's really an engineering one. The inconvenient truth is that if we don't solve the engineering problem, we're helpless.

57. What is said about global warming in the first paragraph?

- A) It may not prove an environmental crisis at all.
 - B) It is an issue requiring worldwide commitments.
 - C) Serious steps have been taken to avoid or stop it.
 - D) Very little will be done to bring it under control.
58. According to the author's understanding, what is Al Gore's view on global warming?
- A) It is a reality both people and politicians are unaware of.
 - B) It is a phenomenon that causes us many inconveniences.
 - C) It is a problem that can be solved once it is recognized.
 - D) It is an area we actually have little knowledge about.
59. Greenhouse emissions will more than double by 2050 because of _____.
 A) economic growth B) wasteful use of energy
 C) the widening gap between the rich and poor
 D) the rapid advances of science and technology
60. The author believes that, since the signing of the Kyoto Protocol, _____.
 A) politicians have started to do something to better the situation
 B) few nations have adopted real tough measures to limit energy use
 C) reductions in energy consumption have greatly cut back global warming
 D) international cooperation has contributed to solving environmental problems
61. What is the message the author intends to convey?
 A) Global warming is more of a moral issue than a practical one.
 B) The ultimate solution to global warming lies in new technology.
 C) The debate over global warming will lead to technological breakthroughs.
 D) People have to give up certain material comforts to stop global warming.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

Someday a stranger will read your e-mail without your permission or scan the website you've visited, or perhaps someone will casually glance through your credit card purchases or cell phone bills to find out your shopping preferences or calling habits.

In fact, it's likely some of these things have already happened to you. Who would watch you without your permission? It might be a spouse, a girlfriend, a marketing company, a boss, a cop or a criminal. Whoever it is, they will see you in a way you never intended to be seen - the 21st century equivalent of being caught naked.

Psychologists tell us boundaries are healthy, that it's important to reveal yourself to friends, family and lovers in stages, at appropriate times. But few boundaries remain. The digital bread crumbs(碎屑) you leave everywhere make it easy for strangers to reconstruct who you are, where you are and what you like. In some cases, a simple Google search can reveal what you think. Like it or not, increasingly we live in a world where you simply cannot keep a secret.

The key question is: Does that matter?

For many Americans, the answer apparently is "no."

When opinion polls ask Americans about privacy, most say they are concerned about

losing it. A survey found an overwhelming pessimism about privacy, with 60 percent of respondents saying they feel their privacy is "slipping away, and that bothers me."

But people say one thing and do another. Only a tiny fraction of Americans change any behaviors in an effort to preserve their privacy. Few people turn down a discount at tollbooths(收费站) to avoid using the EZ-Pass system that can track automobile movements. And few turn down supermarket loyalty cards. Privacy economist Alessandro Acquisti has run a series of tests that reveal people will surrender personal information like Social Security numbers just to get their hands on a pitiful 50-cents-off coupon(优惠券).

But privacy does matter - at least sometimes. It's like health: When you have it, you don't notice it. Only when it's gone do you wish you'd done more to protect it.

62. What does the author mean by saying "the 21st century equivalent of being caught naked" (Lines 3-4, Para.2)?

- A) People's personal information is easily accessed without their knowledge.
- B) In the 21st century people try every means to look into others' secrets.
- C) People tend to be more frank with each other in the information age.
- D) Criminals are easily caught on the spot with advanced technology.

63. What would psychologists advise on the relationships between friends?

- A) Friends should open their hearts to each other.
- B) Friends should always be faithful to each other.
- C) There should be a distance even between friends.
- D) There should be fewer disputes between friends.

64. Why does the author say "we live in a world where you simply cannot keep a secret" (Line 5, para.3)?

- A) Modern society has finally evolved into an open society.
- B) People leave traces around when using modern technology.
- C) There are always people who are curious about others' affairs.
- D) Many search engines profit by revealing people's identities.

65. What do most Americans do with regard to privacy protection?

- A) They change behaviors that might disclose their identity.
- B) They use various loyalty cards for business transactions.
- C) They rely most and more on electronic devices.
- D) They talk a lot but hardly do anything about it.

66. According to the passage, privacy is like health in that _____.

- A) people will make every effort to keep it
- B) its importance is rarely understood
- C) is something that can easily be lost
- D) people don't cherish it until they lose it

2008 年 12 月

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

If you are a male and you are reading this, congratulations: you are a survivor. According to statistics, you are more than twice as likely to die of skin cancer than a woman, and nine times more likely to die of AIDS. Assuming you make it to the end of your natural term, about 78 years for men in Australia, you will die on average five years before a woman.

There are many reasons for this - typically, men take more risks than woman and are more likely to drink and smoke but perhaps more importantly, men don't go to the doctor.

"Men aren't seeing doctors as often as they should," says Dr. Gullotta, "This is particularly so for the over-40s, when diseases tend to strike."

Gullotta says a healthy man should visit the doctor every year or two. For those over 45, it should be at least once a year.

Two months ago Gullotta saw a 50-year-old mother who had delayed doing anything about his smoker's cough for a year.

"When I finally saw him it had already spread and he has since died from lung cancer" he says, "Earlier detection and treatment may not have cured him, but it would have prolonged this life".

According to a recent survey, 95% of women aged between 15 and early 40s see a doctor once a year, compared to 70% of men in the same age group.

"A lot of men think they are invincible(不可战胜的)" Gullotta says. "They only come in when a friend drops dead on the golf course and they think" Geez, if it could happen to him.

Then there is the ostrich approach, "some men are scared of what might be there and would rather not know," says Dr. Ross Cartmill.

"Most men get their cars serviced more regularly than they service their bodies," Cartmill says. He believes most diseases that commonly affect men could be addressed by preventive check-ups.

Regular check-ups for men would inevitably place strain on the public purse, Cartmill says. "But prevention is cheaper in the long run than having to treat the diseases. Besides, the ultimate cost is far greater: it is called premature death."

57. Why does the author congratulate his male readers at the beginning of the passage?

A. They are more likely to survive serious diseases today.

- B. Their average life span has been considerably extended.
 - C. They have lived long enough to read this article.
 - D. They are sure to enjoy a longer and happier live.
58. What does the author state is the most important reason men die five years earlier on average than women?
- A. Men drink and smoke much more than women.
 - B. Men don't seek medical care as often as women.
 - C. Men aren't as cautious as women in face of danger.
 - D. Men are more likely to suffer from fatal diseases.
59. Which of the following best completes the sentence "Geez, if it could happen to him,..." (line 2, para. 8)?
- A. It could happen to me, too.
 - B. I should avoid playing golf.
 - C. I should consider myself lucky.
 - D. It would be a big misfortune.
60. What does Dr. Ross Cartmill mean by "the ostrich approach" (line 2 para.9)?
- A. A casual attitude towards one's health conditions.
 - B. A new therapy for certain psychological problems.
 - C. Refusal to get medical treatment for fear of the pain involved.
 - D. Unwillingness to find out about one's disease because of fear.
61. What does Cartmill say about regular check-ups for men?
- A. They may increase public expenses.
 - B. They will save money in the long run.
 - C. They may cause psychological strains on men.
 - D. They will enable men to live as long as women.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

High-quality customer service is preached(宣扬) by many, but actually keeping customers happy is easier said than done

Shoppers seldom complain to the manager or owner of a retail store, but instead will alert their friends, relatives, co-workers, strangers - and anyone who will listen.

Store managers are often the last to hear complaints, and often find out only when their regular customers decide frequent their competitors, according to a study jointly conducted by Verde group and Wharton school

"Storytelling hurts retailers and entertains consumers," said Paula Courtney, President of the Verde group. "the store loses the customer, but the shopper must also find a replacement."

On average, every unhappy customer will complain to at least four others, and will no longer visit the specific store for every dissatisfied customer, a store will lose up to three more due to negative reviews. The resulting "snowball effect" can be disastrous to retailers.

According to the research, shoppers who purchased clothing encountered the most problems. Ranked second and third were grocery and electronics customers.

The most common complaints include filled parking lots, cluttered(塞满了的) shelves, overloaded racks, out-of-stock items, long check-out lines, and rude salespeople.

During peak shopping hours, some retailers solved the parking problems by getting moonlighting local police to work as parking attendants. Some hired flag wavers to direct customers to empty parking spaces. This guidance eliminated the need for customers to circle the parking lot endlessly, and avoided confrontation between those eyeing the same parking space.

Retailers can relieve the headaches by redesigning store layouts, pre-stocking sales items, hiring speedy and experienced cashiers, and having sales representatives on hand to answer questions.

Most importantly, salespeople should be diplomatic and polite with angry customers.

"Retailers who're responsive and friendly are more likely to smooth over issues than those who aren't so friendly," said Professor Stephen Hoch. "Maybe something as simple as a greeter at the store entrance would help."

Customers can also improve future shopping experiences by filing complaints to the retailer, instead of complaining to the rest of the world. Retailers are hard-pressed to improve when they have no idea what is wrong.

62. Why are store managers often the last to hear complaints?

- A. Most customers won't bother to complain even if they have had unhappy experiences.
- B. Customers would rather relate their unhappy experiences to people around them.
- C. Few customers believe the service will be improved.
- D. Customers have no easy access to store managers.

63. What does Paula Courtney imply by saying "... the shopper must also find a replacement" (Line 2, Para. 4)?

- A. New customers are bound to replace old ones.
- B. It is not likely the shopper can find the same products in other stores.
- C. Most stores provide the same.
- D. Not complaining to the manager causes the shopper some trouble too.

64. Shop owners often hire moonlighting police as parking attendants so that shoppers _____.

- A. can stay longer browsing in the store
- B. won't have trouble parking their cars
- C. won't have any worries about security
- D. can find their cars easily after shopping

65. What contributes most to smoothing over issues with customers?

- A. Manners of the salespeople. B. Hiring of efficient employees.
- C. Huge supply of goods for sale. D. Design of the store layout.

66. To achieve better shopping experiences, customers are advised to _____.

- A. exert pressure on stores to improve their service
- B. settle their disputes with stores in a diplomatic way
- C. voice their dissatisfaction to store managers directly
- D. shop around and make comparisons between stores

2009 年 6 月

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

The January fashion show, called FutureFashion, exemplified how far green design has come. Organized by the New York-based nonprofit Earth Pledge, the show inspired many top designers to work with sustainable fabrics for the first time. Several have since made pledges to include organic fabrics in their lines.

The designers who undertake green fashion still face many challenges. Scott Hahn, cofounder with Gregory of Rogan and Loomstate, which uses all-organic cotton, says high-quality sustainable materials can still be tough to find. "Most designers with existing labels are finding there aren't comparable fabrics that can just replace what you're doing and what your customers are used to," he says. For example, organic cotton and non-organic cotton are virtually indistinguishable once woven into a dress. But some popular synthetics, like stretch nylon, still have few eco-friendly equivalents.

Those who do make the switch are finding they have more support. Last year the influential trade show Designers & Agents stopped charging its participation fee for young green entrepreneurs(企业家) who attend its two springtime shows in Los Angeles and New York and gave special recognition to designers whose collections are at least 25% sustainable. It now counts more than 50 green designers, up from fewer than a dozen two years ago. This week Wal-Mart is set to announce a major initiative aimed at helping cotton farmers go organic: it will buy transitional(过渡型的) cotton at higher prices, thus helping to expand the supply of a key sustainable material. "Mainstream is about to occur," says Hahn.

Some analysts(分析师) are less sure. Among consumers, only 18% are even aware that ecofashion exists, up from 6% four years ago. Natalie Hormilla, a fashion writer, is an example of the unconverted consumer, when asked if she owned any sustainable clothes, she replied: "Not that I'm aware of." Like most consumers, she finds little time to shop, and when she does, she's on the hunt for "cute stuff that isn't too expensive." By her own admission, green just isn't yet on her mind. But - thanks to the combined efforts of designers, retailers and suppliers - one day it will be.

57. What is said about FutureFashion?

- A) It inspired many leading designers to start going green.
- B) It showed that designers using organic fabrics would go far.

- C) It served as an example of how fashion shows should be organized.
 D) It convinced the public that fashionable clothes should be made durable.
58. According to Scott Hahn, one big challenge to designers who will go organic is that _____.
- A) much more time is needed to finish a dress using sustainable materials
 B) they have to create new brands for clothes made of organic materials
 C) customers have difficulty telling organic from non-organic materials
 D) quality organic replacements for synthetics are not readily available
59. We learn from Paragraph 3 that designers who undertake green fashion _____.
 A) can attend various trade shows free B) are readily recognized by the fashion world
 C) can buy organic cotton at favorable prices D) are gaining more and more support
60. What is Natalie Hormilla's attitude toward ecofashion?
 A) She doesn't seem to care about it. B) She doesn't think it is sustainable.
 C) She is doubtful of its practical value. D) She is very much opposed to the idea.
61. What does the author think of green fashion?
 A) Green products will soon go mainstream. B) It has a very promising future.
 C) Consumers have the final say. D) It will appeal more to young people.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

Scientists have devised a way to determine roughly where a person has lived using a strand(缕) of hair, a technique that could help track the movements of criminal suspects or unidentified murder victims.

The method relies on measuring how chemical variations in drinking water show up in people's hair.

"You're what you eat and drink, and that's recorded in your hair," said Thure Cerling, a geologist at the University of Utah.

While U.S diet is relatively identical, water supplies vary. The differences result from weather patterns. The chemical composition of rainfall changes slightly as raid clouds move.

Most hydrogen and oxygen atoms in water are stable, but traces of both elements are also present as heavier isotopes(同位素). The heaviest raid falls first. As a result, storms that form over the Pacific deliver heavier water to California than to Utah.

Similar patterns exist throughout the U.S. By measuring the proportion of heavier hydrogen and oxygen isotopes along a strand of hair, scientists can construct a geographic timeline. Each inch of hair corresponds to about two months.

Cerling's team collected tap water samples from 600 cities and constructed a map of the regional differences. They checked the accuracy of the map by testing 200 hair samples collected from 65 barber shops.

They were able to accurately place the hair samples in broad regions roughly corresponding to the movement of raid systems.

"It's not good for pinpointing(精确定位)," Cerling said. "It's good for eliminating many possibilities."

Todd Park, a local detective, said the method has helped him learn more about an unidentified woman whose skeleton was found near Great Salt Lake.

The woman was 5 feet tall. Police recovered 26 bones, a T-shirt and several strands of hair.

When Park heard about the research, he gave the hair samples to the researchers. Chemical testing showed that over the two years before her death, she moved about every two months.

She stayed in the Northwest, although the test could not be more specific than somewhere between eastern Oregon and western Wyoming.

"It's still a substantial area," Park said "But it narrows it way down for me."

62. What is the scientists' new discovery?

- A) One's hair growth has to do with the amount of water they drink.
- B) A person's hair may reveal where they have lived.
- C) Hair analysis accurately identifies criminal suspects.
- D) The chemical composition of hair varies from person to person.

63. What does the author mean by "You're what you eat and drink" (Line 1, Para.3)?

- A) Food and drink affect one's personality development.
- B) Food and drink preferences vary with individuals.
- C) Food and drink leave traces in one's body tissues.
- D) Food and drink are indispensable to one's existence.

64. What is said about the rainfall in America's West?

- A) There is much more rainfall in California than in Utah.
- B) The water it delivers becomes lighter when it moves inland.
- C) Its chemical composition is less stable than in other areas.
- D) It gathers more light isotopes as it moves eastward.

65. What did Cerling's team produce in their research?

- A) A map showing the regional differences of tap water.
- B) A collection of hair samples from various barber shops.
- C) A method to measure the amount of water in human hair.
- D) A chart illustrating the movement of the rain system.

66. What is the practical value of Cerling's research?

- A) It helps analyze the quality of water in different regions.
- B) It helps the police determine where a crime is committed.
- C) It helps the police narrow down possibilities in detective work.
- D) It helps identify the drinking habits of the person under investigation.

2009 年 12 月

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

Throughout this long, tense election, everyone has focused on the presidential candidates and how they'll change America. Rightly so, but selfishly, I'm more fascinated by Michelle Obama and what she might be able to do, not just for this country, but for me as an African-American woman. As the potential First Lady, she would have the world's attention. And that means that for the first time people will have a chance to get up close and personal with the type of African-American woman they so rarely see.

Usually, the lives of black women go largely unexamined. The prevailing theory seems to be that we're all hot-tempered single mothers who can't keep a man. Even in the world of make-believe, black women still can't escape the stereotype of being eye-rolling, oversexed females raised by our never-married, alcoholic(酗酒的) mothers.

These images have helped define the way all women are viewed, including Michelle Obama. Before she ever gets the chance to commit to a cause, charity or foundation as First Lady, her most urgent and perhaps most complicated duty may be simple to be herself.

It won't be easy. Because few mainstream publications have done in-depth features on regular African-American women, little is known about who we are, what we think and what we face on a regular basis. For better or worse, Michelle will represent us all.

Just as she will have her critics, she will also have millions of fans who usually have little interest in the First Lady. Many African-American blogs have written about what they'd like to see Michelle bring to the White House—mainly showing the world that a black woman can support her man and raise a strong black family. Michelle will have to work to please everyone—an impossible task. But for many African-American women like me, just a little of her poise(沉着), confidence and intelligence will go a long way in changing an image that's been around for far too long.

57. Why does Michelle Obama hold a strong fascination for the author?

- A) She serves as a role model for African women.
- B) She possesses many admirable qualities becoming a First Lady.
- C) She will present to the world a new image of African-American women.
- D) She will pay closer attention to the interests of African-American women.

58. What is the common stereotype of African-American women according to the author?

- A) They are victims of violence. B) They are of an inferior violence.
C) They use quite a lot of body language. D) They live on charity and social welfare.
59. What do many African-Americans write about in their blogs?
A) Whether Michelle can live up to the high expectations of her fans.
B) How Michelle should behave as a public figure.
C) How proud they are to have a black woman in the White House.
D) What Michelle should do as wife and mother in the White House.
60. What does the author say about Michelle Obama as a First Lady?
A) However many fans she has, she should remain modest.
B) She shouldn't disappoint the African-American community.
C) However hard she tries, she can't expect to please everybody.
D) She will give priority to African-American women's concerns.
61. What do many African-American women hope Michelle Obama will do?
A) Help change the prevailing view about black women.
B) Help her husband in the task of changing America.
C) Outshine previous First Lady. D) Fully display her fine qualities.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

When next year's crop of high-school graduates arrive at Oxford University in the fall of 2009, they'll be joined by a new face; Andrew Hamilton, the 55-year-old provost(教务长) of Yale, who'll become Oxford's vice-chancellor—a position equivalent to university president in America.

Hamilton isn't the only educator crossing the Atlantic. Schools in France, Egypt, Singapore, etc, have also recently made top-level hires from abroad. Higher education has become a big and competitive business nowadays, and like so many businesses, it's gone global. Yet the talent flow isn't universal. High-level personnel tend to head in only one direction: outward from America.

The chief reason is that American schools don't tend to seriously consider looking abroad. For example, when the board of the University of Colorado searched for a new president, it wanted a leader familiar with the state government, a major source of the university's budget. "We didn't do any global consideration," says Patricia Hayes, the board's chair. The board ultimately picked Bruce Benson, a 69-year-old Colorado businessman and political activist(活动家) who is likely to do well in the main task of modern university presidents: fund-raising. Fund-raising is a distinctively American thing, since U.S. schools rely heavily on donations. The fund-raising ability is largely a product of experience and necessity.

Many European universities, meanwhile, are still mostly dependent on government funding. But government support has failed to keep pace with rising student number. The decline in government support has made funding-raising an increasingly necessary ability among administrators and has hiring committees hungry for Americans.

In the past few years, prominent schools around the world have joined the trend. In

2003, when Cambridge University appointed Alison Richard, another former Yale provost, as its vice-chancellor, the university publicly stressed that in her previous job she had overseen "a major strengthening of Yale's financial position."

Of course, fund-raising isn't the only skill outsiders offer. The globalization of education means more universities will be seeking heads with international experience of some kind of promote international programs and attract a global student body. Foreigners can offer a fresh perspective on established practices.

62. What is the current trend in higher education discussed in the passage?

- A) Institutions worldwide are hiring administrators from the U.S.
- B) A lot of political activists are being recruited as administrators.
- C) American universities are enrolling more international students.
- D) University presidents are paying more attention to funding-raising.

63. What is the chief consideration of American universities when hiring top-level administrators?

- A) The political correctness.
- B) Their ability to raise funds.
- C) Their fame in academic circles.
- D) Their administrative experience.

64. What do we learn about European universities from the passage?

- A) The tuitions they charge have been rising considerably.
- B) Their operation is under strict government supervision.
- C) They are strengthening their position by globalization.
- D) Most of their revenues come from the government.

65. Cambridge University appointed Alison Richard as its vice-chancellor chiefly because _____.

- A) she was known to be good at raising money
- B) she could help strengthen its ties with Yale
- C) she knew how to attract students overseas
- D) she had boosted Yale's academic status

66. In what way do top-level administrators from abroad contribute to university development?

- A) They can enhance the university's image.
- B) They will bring with them more international faculty.
- C) They will view a lot of things from a new perspective.
- D) They can set up new academic disciplines.

2010 年 6 月

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

You never see him, but they're with you every time you fly. They record where you are going, how fast you're traveling and whether everything on your airplane is functioning normally. Their ability to withstand almost any disaster makes them seem like something out of a comic book. They're known as the black box.

When planes fall from the sky, as a Yemeni airliner did on its way to Comoros Islands in the India ocean June 30, 2009, the black box is the best bet for identifying what went wrong. So when a French submarine(潜水艇) detected the device's homing signal five days later, the discovery marked a huge step toward determining the cause of a tragedy in which 152 passengers were killed.

In 1958, Australian scientist David Warren developed a flight-memory recorder that would track basic information like altitude and direction. That was the first mode for a black box, which became a requirement on all U.S. commercial flights by 1960. Early models often failed to withstand crashes, however, so in 1965 the device was completely redesigned and moved to the rear of the plane - the area least subject to impact - from its original position in the landing wells(起落架舱). The same year, the Federal Aviation Authority required that the boxes, which were never actually black, be painted orange or yellow to aid visibility.

Modern airplanes have two black boxes: a voice recorder, which tracks pilots' conversations, and a flight-data recorder, which monitors fuel levels, engine noises and other operating functions that help investigators reconstruct the aircraft's final moments. Placed in an insulated(隔绝的) case and surrounded by a quarter-inch-thick panels of stainless steel, the boxes can withstand massive force and temperatures up to 2,000°F. When submerged, they're also able to emit signals from depths of 20,000 ft. Experts believe the boxes from Air France Flight 447, which crashed near Brazil on June 1, 2009, are in water nearly that deep, but statistics say they're still likely to turn up. In the approximately 20 deep-sea crashes over the past 30 years, only one plane's black boxes were never recovered.

57. What does the author say about the black box?

- A) It ensures the normal functioning of an airplane.
- B) The idea for its design comes from a comic book.
- C) Its ability to ward off disasters is incredible.

- D) It is an indispensable device on an airplane.
58. What information could be found from the black box on the Yemeni airliner?
- A) Data for analyzing the cause of the crash.
- B) The total number of passengers on board.
- C) The scene of the crash and extent of the damage.
- D) Homing signals sent by the pilot before the crash.
59. Why was the black box redesigned in 1965?
- A) New materials became available by that time.
- B) Too much space was needed for its installation.
- C) The early models often got damaged in the crash.
- D) The early models didn't provide the needed data.
60. Why did the Federal Aviation Authority require the black boxes be painted orange or yellow?
- A) To distinguish them from the colour of the plane.
- B) To caution people to handle them with care.
- C) To make them easily identifiable. D) To conform to international standards.
61. What do we know about the black boxes from Air France Flight 447?
- A) There is still a good chance of their being recovered.
- B) There is an urgent need for them to be reconstructed.
- C) They have stopped sending homing signals.
- D) They were destroyed somewhere near Brazil.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

The \$11 billion self-help industry is built on the idea that you should turn negative thoughts like "I never do anything right" into positive ones like "I can succeed." But was positive thinking advocate Norman Vincent Peale right? Is there power in positive thinking?

Researchers in Canada just published a study in the journal *Psychological Science* that says trying to get people to think more positively can actually have the opposite effect: it can simply highlight how unhappy they are.

The study's authors, Joanne Wood and John Lee of the University of Waterloo and Elaine Perunovic of the University of New Brunswick, begin by citing older research showing that when people get feedback which they believe is overly positive, they actually feel worse, not better. If you tell your dim friend that he has the potential of an Einstein, you're just underlining his faults. In one 1990s experiment, a team including psychologist Joel Cooper of Princeton asked participants to write essays opposing funding for the disabled. When the essayists were later praised for their sympathy, they felt even worse about what they had written.

In this experiment, Wood, Lee and Perunovic measured 68 students' self-esteem. The participants were then asked to write down their thoughts and feelings for four minutes. Every 15 seconds, one group of students heard a bell. When it rang, they were supposed to tell themselves, "I am lovable."

Those with low self-esteem didn't feel better after the forced self-affirmation. In fact, their moods turned significantly darker than those of members of the control group, who weren't urged to think positive thoughts.

The paper provides support for newer forms of psychotherapy(心理治疗) that urge people to accept their negative thoughts and feelings rather than fight them. In the fighting, we not only often fail but can make things worse. Meditation(静思) techniques, in contrast, can teach people to put their shortcomings into a larger, more realistic perspective. Call it the power of negative thinking.

62. What do we learn from the first paragraph about the self-help industry?

- A) It is a highly profitable industry. B) It is based on the concept of positive thinking.
- C) It was established by Norman Vincent Peale. D) It has yielded positive results.

63. What is the finding of the Canadian researchers?

- A) Encouraging positive thinking many do more harm than good.
- B) There can be no simple therapy for psychological problems.
- C) Unhappy people cannot think positively.
- D) The power of positive thinking is limited.

64. What does the author mean by "... you're just underlining his faults" (Line 4, Para. 3)?

- A) You are not taking his mistakes seriously enough.
- B) You are pointing out the errors he has committed.
- C) You are emphasizing the fact that he is not intelligent.
- D) You are trying to make him feel better about his faults.

65. What do we learn from the experiment of Wood, Lee and Perunovic?

- A) It is important for people to continually boost their self-esteem.
- B) Self-affirmation can bring a positive change to one's mood.
- C) Forcing a person to think positive thoughts may lower their self-esteem.
- D) People with low self-esteem seldom write down their true feelings.

66. What do we learn from the last paragraph?

- A) The effects of positive thinking vary from person to person.
- B) Meditation may prove to be a good form of psychotherapy.
- C) Different people tend to have different ways of thinking.
- D) People can avoid making mistakes through meditation.

2010 年 12 月

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

It is pretty much a one-way street. While it may be common for university researchers to try their luck in the commercial world, there is very little traffic in the opposite direction. Pay has always been the biggest deterrent, as people with families often feel they cannot afford the drop in salary when moving to a university job. For some industrial scientists, however, the attractions of academia(学术界) outweigh any financial considerations.

Helen Lee took a 70% cut in salary when she moved from a senior post in Abbott Laboratories to a medical department at the University of Cambridge. Her main reason for returning to academia mid-career was to take advantage of the greater freedom to choose research questions. Some areas of inquiry have few prospects of a commercial return, and Lee's is one of them.

The impact of a salary cut is probably less severe for a scientist in the early stages of a career. Guy Grant, now a research associate at the Unilever Centre for Molecular Informatics at the University of Cambridge, spent two years working for a pharmaceutical(制药的) company before returning to university as a post-doctoral researcher. He took a 30% salary cut but felt it worthwhile for the greater intellectual opportunities.

Higher up the ladder, where a pay cut is usually more significant, the demand for scientists with a wealth of experience in industry is forcing universities to make the transition(转换) to academia more attractive, according to Lee. Industrial scientists tend to receive training that academics do not, such as how to build a multidisciplinary team, manage budgets and negotiate contracts. They are also well placed to bring something extra to the teaching side of an academic role that will help students get a job when they graduate, says Lee, perhaps experience in manufacturing practice or product development. "Only a small number of undergraduates will continue in an academic career. So someone leaving university who already has the skills needed to work in an industrial lab has far more potential in the job market than someone who has spent all their time on a narrow research project."

57. By "a one-way street" (Line 1, Para. 1), the author means _____.

[A] university researchers know little about the commercial world

[B] there is little exchange between industry and academia

- [C] few industrial scientists would quit to work in a university
[D] few university professors are willing to do industrial research
58. The word "deterrent" (Line 3, Para. 1) most probably refers to something that _____.
[A] keeps someone from taking action [B] helps to move the traffic
[C] attracts people's attention [D] brings someone a financial burden
59. What was Helen Lee's major consideration when she changed her job in the middle of her career?
[A] Flexible work hours. [B] Her research interests.
[C] Her preference for the lifestyle on campus.
[D] Prospects of academic accomplishments.
60. Guy Grant chose to work as a researcher at Cambridge in order to _____.
[A] do financially more rewarding work [B] raise his status in the academic world
[C] enrich his experience in medical research [D] exploit better intellectual opportunities
61. What contribution can industrial scientists make when they come to teach in a university?
[A] Increase its graduates' competitiveness in the job market
[B] Develop its students' potential in research.
[C] Help it to obtain financial support from industry.
[D] Gear its research towards practical applications.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

Being sociable looks like a good way to add years to your life. Relationships with family, friends, neighbours, even pets, will all do the trick, but the biggest longevity(长寿) boost seems to come from marriage or an equivalent relationship. The effect was first noted in 1858 by William Farr, who wrote that widows and widowers(鳏夫) were at a much higher risk of dying than their married peers. Studies since then suggest that marriage could add as much as seven years to a man's life and two to a woman's. The effect holds for all causes of death, whether illness, accident or self-harm.

Even if the odds are stacked against you, marriage can more than compensate. Linda Waite of the University of Chicago has found that a married older man with heart disease can expect to live nearly four years longer than an unmarried man with a healthy heart. Likewise, a married man who smokes more than a pack a day is likely to live as long as a divorced man who doesn't smoke. There's a flip side, however, as partners are more likely to become ill or die in the couple of years following their spouse's death, and caring for a spouse with mental disorder can leave you with some of the same severe problems. Even so, the odds favour marriage. In a 30-year study of more than 10,000 people, Nicholas Christakis of Harvard Medical School describes how all kinds of social networks have similar effects.

So how does it work? The effects are complex, affected by socio-economic factors, health-service provision, emotional support and other more physiological(生理的) mechanisms. For example, social contact can boost development of the brain and immune system, leading to better health and less chance of depression later in life. People in supportive relationships may handle stress better. Then there are the psychological benefits

of a supportive partner.

A life partner, children and good friends are all recommended if you aim to live to 100. The ultimate social network is still being mapped out, but Christakis says: "People are interconnected, so their health is interconnected."

62. William Farr's study and other studies show that _____.

- [A] social life provides an effective cure for illness
- [B] being sociable helps improve one's quality of life
- [C] women benefit more than men from marriage
- [D] marriage contributes a great deal to longevity

63. Linda Waite's studies support the idea that _____.

- [A] older men should quit smoking to stay healthy
- [B] marriage can help make up for ill health
- [C] the married are happier than the unmarried
- [D] unmarried people are likely to suffer in later life

64. It can be inferred from the context that the "flip side" (Line 5, Para. 2) refers to _____.

- [A] the disadvantages of being married
- [B] the emotional problems arising from marriage
- [C] the responsibility of taking care of one's family
- [D] the consequence of a broken marriage

65. What does the author say about social networks?

- [A] They have effects similar to those of a marriage.
- [B] They help develop people's community spirit.
- [C] They provide timely support for those in need.
- [D] They help relieve people of their life's burdens.

66. What can be inferred from the last paragraph?

- [A] It's important that we develop a social network when young.
- [B] To stay healthy, one should have a proper social network.
- [C] Getting a divorce means risking a reduced life span.
- [D] We should share our social networks with each other.

2011 年 6 月

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

Several recent studies have found that being randomly(随机地) assigned to a roommate of another race can lead to increased tolerance but also to a greater likelihood(可能性) of conflict.

Recent reports found that lodging with a student of a different race may decrease prejudice and compel students to engage in more ethnically diverse friendships.

An Ohio State University study also found that black students living with a white roommate saw higher academic success throughout their college careers. Researchers believe this may be caused by social pressure.

In a New York Times article, Sam Boakye - the only black student on his freshman year floor - said that "if you're surrounded by whites, you have something to prove."

Researchers also observed problems resulting from pairing interracial students in residences.

According to two recent studies, randomly assigned roommates of different races are more likely to experience conflicts so strained that one roommate will move out.

An Indiana University study found that interracial roommates were three times as likely as two white roommates to no longer live together by the end of the semester.

Grace Kao, a professor at Penn said she was not surprised by the findings. "This may be the first time that some of these students have interacted, and lived, with someone of a different race," she said.

At Penn, students are not asked to indicate race when applying for housing.

"One of the great things about freshman housing is that, with some exceptions, the process throws you together randomly," said Undergraduate Assembly chairman Alec Webley. "This is the definition of integration."

"I've experienced roommate conflicts between interracial students that have both broken down stereotypes and reinforced stereotypes," said one Penn resident advisor (RA). The RA of two years added that while some conflicts "provided more multicultural acceptance and melding(融合)," there were also "jarring cultural confrontations."

The RA said that these conflicts have also occurred among roommates of the same race.

Kao said she cautions against forming any generalizations based on any one of the

studies, noting that more background characteristics of the students need to be studied and explained.

57. What can we learn from some recent studies?

- A) Conflicts between students of different races are unavoidable.
- B) Students of different races are prejudiced against each other.
- C) Interracial lodging does more harm than good.
- D) Interracial lodging may have diverse outcomes.

58. What does Sam Boakye's remark mean?

- A) White students tend to look down upon their black peers.
- B) Black students can compete with their white peers academically.
- C) Black students feel somewhat embarrassed among white peers during the freshman year.
- D) Being surrounded by white peers motivates a black student to work harder to succeed.

59. What does the Indiana University study show?

- A) Interracial roommates are more likely to fall out.
- B) Few white students like sharing a room with a black peer.
- C) Roommates of different races just don't get along.
- D) Assigning students' lodging randomly is not a good policy.

60. What does Alec Webley consider to be the "definition of integration"?

- A) Students of different races are required to share a room.
- B) Interracial lodging is arranged by the school for freshmen.
- C) Lodging is assigned to students of different races without exception.
- D) The school randomly assigns roommates without regard to race.

61. What does Grace Kao say about interracial lodging?

- A) It is unscientific to make generalizations about it without further study.
- B) Schools should be cautious when making decisions about student lodging.
- C) Students' racial background should be considered before lodging is assigned.
- D) Experienced resident advisors should be assigned to handle the problems.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

Global warming is causing more than 300,000 deaths and about \$125 billion in economic losses each year, according to a report by the Global Humanitarian Forum, an organization led by Annan, the former United Nations secretary general.

The report, to be released Friday, analyzed data and existing studies of health, disaster, population and economic trends. It found that human-influenced climate change was raising the global death rates from illnesses including malnutrition(营养不良) and heat-related health problems.

But even before its release, the report drew criticism from some experts on climate and risk, who questioned its methods and conclusions.

Along with the deaths, the report said that the lives of 325 million people, primarily in poor countries, were being seriously affected by climate change. It projected that the number would double by 2030.

Roger Pielke Jr., a political scientist at the University of Colorado, Boulder, who studies disaster trends, said the Forum's report was "a methodological embarrassment" because there was no way to distinguish deaths or economic losses related to human-driven global warming amid the much larger losses resulting from the growth in populations and economic development in vulnerable(易受伤害的) regions. Dr. Pielke said that "climate change is an important problem requiring our utmost attention." But the report, he said, "will harm the cause for action on both climate change and disasters because it is so deeply flawed(有瑕疵的)."

However, Soren Andreasen, a social scientist at Dalberg Global Development Partners who supervised the writing of the report, defended it, saying that it was clear that the numbers were rough estimates. He said the report was aimed at world leaders, who will meet in Copenhagen in December to negotiate a new international climate treaty.

In a press release describing the report, Mr. Annan stressed the need for the negotiations to focus on increasing the flow of money from rich to poor regions to help reduce their vulnerability to climate hazards while still curbing the emissions of the heat-trapping gases. More than 90% of the human and economic losses from climate change are occurring in poor countries, according to the report.

62. What is the finding of the Global Humanitarian Forum?

- A) Global temperatures affect the rate of economic development.
- B) Rates of death from illnesses have risen due to global warming.
- C) Malnutrition has caused serious health problems in poor countries.
- D) Economic trends have to do with population and natural disasters.

63. What do we learn about the Forum's report from the passage?

- A) It was challenged by some climate and risk experts.
- B) It aroused a lot of interest in the scientific circles.
- C) It was warmly received by environmentalists.
- D) It caused a big stir in developing countries.

64. What does Dr. Pielke say about the Forum's report?

- A) Its statistics look embarrassing. B) It is invalid in terms of methodology.
- C) It deserves our closest attention. D) Its conclusion is purposely exaggerated.

65. What is Soren Andreasen's view of the report?

- A) Its conclusions are based on carefully collected data.
- B) It is vulnerable to criticism if the statistics are closely examined.
- C) It will give rise to heated discussions at the Copenhagen conference.
- D) Its rough estimates are meant to draw the attention of world leaders.

66. What does Kofi Annan say should be the focus of the Copenhagen conference?

- A) How rich and poor regions can share responsibility in curbing global warming.
- B) How human and economic losses from climate change can be reduced.
- C) How emissions of heat-trapping gases can be reduced on a global scale.
- D) How rich countries can better help poor regions reduce climate hazards.

2011 年 12 月

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Why Integrity Matters

What is Integrity?

The key to integrity is consistency--not only setting high personal standards for oneself (honesty, responsibility, respect for others, fairness) but also living up to those standards each day. One who has integrity is bound by and follows moral and ethical standards even when making life's hard choices, choices which may be clouded by stress, pressure to succeed, or temptation.

What happens if we lie, cheat, steal, or violate other ethical standards? We feel disappointed in ourselves and ashamed. But a lapse of integrity also affects our relationships with others. Trust is essential in any important relationship, whether personal or professional. Who can trust someone who is dishonest or unfair? Thus, integrity must be one of our most important goals.

Risky Business

We are each responsible for our own decisions, even if the decision-making process has been undermined by stress or peer pressure. The real test of character is whether we can learn from our mistake, by understanding why we acted as we did, and then exploring ways to avoid similar problems in the future.

Making ethical decisions is a critical part of avoiding future problems. We must learn to recognize risks, because if we can't see the risks we're taking, we can't make responsible choices. To identify risks, we need to know the rules and be aware of the facts. For example, one who doesn't know the rules about plagiarism may accidentally use words or ideas without giving proper credit, or one who fails to keep careful research notes may unintentionally fail to quote and cite sources as required. But the fact that such a violation is "unintentional" does not excuse the misconduct. Ignorance is not a defense.

"But Everybody Does It"

Most people who get in trouble do know the rules and facts, but manage to fool themselves about the risks they're taking by using excuses: "Everyone else does it," "I'm not hurting anyone," or "I really need this grade." Excuses can get very elaborate: "I know I'm looking at another's exam, even though I'm supposed to keep my eyes on my own paper, but that's not cheating because I'm just checking my answers, not copying." We must be honest about our actions, and avoid excuses. If we fool ourselves into believing we're not doing anything wrong, we can't see the real choice we're making--and that leads to bad decisions.

To avoid fooling yourself, watch out for excuses and try this test: Ask how you would

feel if your actions were public and anyone could be watching over your shoulder. Would you feel proud or ashamed of your actions? If you'd rather hide your actions, that's a good indication that you're taking a risk and rationalizing it to yourself.

Evaluating Risks

To decide whether a risk is worth taking, you must examine the consequences, in the future as well as right now, negative as well as positive, and to others as well as to yourself. Those who take risks they later regret usually focus on immediate benefits ("what's in it for me"), and simply haven't considered what might go wrong. The consequences of getting caught are serious, and may include a "0" on a test or assignment; an "F" in the class; suspension or dismissal from school; transcript notation; and a tarnished reputation. In fact, when you break a rule or law, you lose control over your life, and give others the power to impose punishment: you have no control over what that punishment might be. This is an extremely precarious and vulnerable position. There may be some matters of life and death, or highest principle, which might justify such a risk, but there aren't many things that fall in this category.

Getting Away With It--Or Not

Those who don't get caught pay an even higher price. A cheater doesn't learn from the test, depriving him/herself of an education. Cheating undermines confidence and independence: the cheater is a fraud, and knows that without dishonesty, he/she would have failed. Cheating destroys self-esteem and integrity, leaving the cheater ashamed, guilty, and afraid of getting caught. Worst of all, a cheater who doesn't get caught the first time usually cheats again, not only because he/she is farther behind, but also because it seems "easier." This slippery slope of eroding ethics and bigger risks leads only to disaster. Eventually, the cheater gets caught, and the later he/she gets caught, the worse the consequences. Students have been dismissed from school because they didn't get this simple message: Honesty is the ONLY policy that works.

Cheating Hurts Others, Too

Cheaters often feel invisible, as if their actions "don't count" and don't really hurt anyone. But individual choices have a profound cumulative effect. Cheating can spread like a disease, and a cheater can encourage others just by being seen from across the room. Recent statistics suggest 30% or more of college students cheat. If a class is graded on a curve, cheating hurts others' grades. Even if there is no curve, cheating "poisons" the classroom, and others may feel pressured to join in. ("If I don't cheat, I can't compete with those who do.") Cheating also has a destructive impact on teachers. The real reward of good teaching is seeing students learn, but a cheater says, "I'm not interested in what you're trying to teach; all I care about is stealing a grade, regardless of the effect on others." The end result is a blatant and destructive attack on the quality of your education. Finally, cheating can hurt the reputation of the University, and harm those who worked hard for their degree.

Why Integrity Matters

If cheating becomes the norm, then we are in big trouble. We must rely on the honesty and good faith of others every day. If not, we couldn't put money in the bank, buy food, clothing, or medicine from others, drive across a bridge, get on a plane, go to the dentist--the list is endless. There are many examples of the vast harm that is caused when individuals forget or ignore the effect their dishonesty can have. The savings and loan

scandal, the stock market and junk bond swindles, and, of course, Watergate, have undermined the faith of many Americans in the integrity of political and economic leaders and society as a whole. Such incidents take a tremendous toll on our nation's economy and our individual well-being. For example, but for the savings and loan debacle, there might be funds available to reduce the national debt and pay for education.

In sum, we all have a common stake in our school, our community, and our society. Our actions do matter. It is essential that we act with integrity in order to build the kind of world in which we want to live.

1. A person of integrity not only sets high moral and ethical standards but also _____.
A. sticks to them in their daily life B. makes them known to others
C. understands their true values D. sees that others also follow them
2. What role does integrity play in personal and professional relationships?
A. It helps to create team spirit B. It facilitates communication
C. It is the basis of mutual trust D. It inspires mutual respect
3. Why must we learn to identify the risks we are going to take?
A. To ensure we make responsible choices B. To avoid being overwhelmed by stress
C. so that we don't break any rules D. so that we don't run into trouble
4. Violation of a rule is misconduct even if _____.
A. it has caused no harm B. it is claimed to be unintentional
C. it has gone unnoticed D. it is committed with good intentions
5. What should one do if he doesn't wish to fool himself?
A. Avoid making excuses B. Listen to other people's advice
C. Make his intentions public D. Have others watch over his shoulder
6. Those who take risks they regret later on _____.
A. will often become more cautious B. are usually very aggressive
C. value immediate benefits most D. may lose everything in the end
7. According to the author, a cheater who doesn't get caught right away will _____.
A. pay more dearly B. become more confident C. be widely admired D. feel somewhat lucky
8. Cheaters at exam don't care about their education, all they care about is how to _____.
9. Integrity matters in that all social activities rely on people's _____.
10. Many Americans lost faith in the integrity of their political leaders as a result of _____.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

Boys' schools are the perfect place to teach young men to express their emotions and are more likely to get involved in activities such as art, dance and music, according to research released today.

Far from the traditional image of a culture of aggressive masculinity in which students either sink or swim, the absence of girls gives boys the chance to develop without pressure to conform to a stereotype, the US study says.

Boys at single sex schools were said to be more likely to get involved in cultural and artistic activities that helped develop their emotional expressiveness, rather than feeling they

had to conform to the "boy code" of hiding their emotions to be a "real man".

The findings of the study go against received wisdom that boys do better when taught alongside girls.

Tony Little, headmaster of Eton, warned that boys were being failed by the British education system because it had become too focused on girls. He criticized teachers for failing to recognize that boys are actually more emotional than girls.

The research argued that boys often perform badly in mixed schools because they become discouraged when their female peers do better earlier in speaking and reading skills.

But in single-sex schools teachers can tailor lessons to boys' learning style, letting them move around the classroom and getting them to compete in teams to prevent boredom, wrote the study's author, Abigail James, of the University of Virginia.

Teachers could encourage boys to enjoy reading and writing with specifically "boy-focused" approaches such as themes and characters that appeal to them. Because boys generally have more acute vision, learn best through touch, and are physically more active, they need to be given "hands-on" lessons where they are allowed to walk around. "Boys in mixed schools view classical music as feminine and prefer the modern genre in which violence and sexism are major themes," James wrote.

Single-sex education also made it less likely that boys would feel they had to conform to a stereotype that men should be "masterful and in charge" in relationships. "In mixed schools, boys feel compelled to act like men before they understand themselves well enough to know what that means," the study reported.

57. The author believes that a single-sex school would _____.

- A. force boys to hide their emotions to be "real man"
- B. help to cultivate masculine aggressiveness in boys
- C. encourage boys to express their emotions more freely
- D. naturally reinforce in boys that traditional image of a man

58. It is commonly believed that in mixed schools boys _____.

- A. perform relatively better
- B. grow up more healthily
- C. behave more responsibly
- D. receive a better education

59. What does Tony Little say about the British education system?

- A. It fails more boys than girls academically.
- B. It focuses more on mixed school education.
- C. It fails to give boys the attention they need.
- D. It places more pressure on boys than on girls.

60. According to Abigail James, one of the advantages of single-sex schools is _____.

- A. teaching can be tailored to suit the characteristics of boys
- B. boys can focus on their lessons without being distracted
- C. boys can choose to learn whatever they are interested in
- D. teaching can be designed to promote boys' team spirit

61. Which of the following is characteristic of boys according to Abigail James' report?

- A. They enjoy being in charge
- B. They conform to stereotypes
- C. They have sharper vision
- D. They are violent and sexist

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

It's an annual argument. Do we or do we not go on holiday? My partner says no because the boiler could go, or the roof fall off, and we have no savings to save us. I say that you only live once and we work hard and what's the point if you can't go on holiday. The joy of a recession means no argument next year - we just won't go.

Since money is known to be one of the things most likely to bring a relationship to its knees, we should be grateful. For many families the recession means more than not booking a holiday. A YouGov poll of 2,000 people found 22% said they were arguing more with their partners because of concerns about money. What's less clear is whether divorce and separation rates rise in a recession - financial pressures mean couples argue more but make splitting up less affordable. A recent research shows arguments about money were especially damaging to couples. Disputes were characterized by intense verbal aggression, tended to be repeated and not resolved, and made men, more than women, extremely angry.

Kim Stephenson, an occupational psychologist, believes money is such a big deal because of what it symbolizes, which may be different things to men and women. "People can say the same things about money but have different conceptions of what it is for," he explains. "They will say it's to save, to spend, for security, for freedom, to show someone you love them". He says men are more likely to see money as a way of buying status and of showing their parents that they've achieved something.

"The biggest problem is that couples assume each other knows what is going on with their finances, but they don't. There seems to be more of a taboo about talking about money than talking about death. But you both need to know what you are doing, who is paying what into the joint account and how much you keep separately. In a healthy relationship you don't have to agree about money, but you have to talk about it."

62. What does the author say about vacationing?

- A. People enjoy it all the more during a recession.
- B. Few people can afford it without working hard.
- C. It makes all the hard work worthwhile.
- D. It is the chief cause of family disputes.

63. What does the author mean by saying "money is known... to bring a relationship to its knees" (Line1 Para. 2)?

- A. Money is considered to be the root of all evils.
- B. Some people sacrifice their dignity for money.
- C. Few people can resist the temptation of money.
- D. Disputes over money may ruin a relationship.

64. The YouGov poll of 2000 people indicates that in a recession _____.

- A. conflicts between couples tend to rise
- B. it is more expensive for couples to split up
- C. couples show more concern for each other
- D. divorce and separation rates increase

65. What does Kim Stephenson believe?

- A. Money is often a symbol of a person's status.
- B. Money means a great deal to both men and women.

C. Men and women spend money on different things.

D. Men and women view money in different ways.

66. The author suggests at the end of the passage that couples should _____.

A. put their money together instead of keeping it separately

B. make efforts to reach agreement on their family budgets

C. discuss money matters to maintain a healthy relationship

D. avoid arguing about money matters to remain romantic

2012 年 6 月

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

In times of economic crisis, Americans turn to their families for support. If the Great Depression is any guide, we may see a drop in our skyhigh divorce rate. But this won't necessarily represent an increase in happy marriages. In the long run, the Depression weakened American families, and the current crisis will probably do the same.

We tend to think of the Depression as a time when families pulled together to survive huge job losses. By 1932, when nearly one-quarter of the workforce was unemployed, the divorce rate had declined by around 25% from 1929. But this doesn't mean people were suddenly happier with their marriages. Rather, with incomes decreasing and insecure jobs, unhappy couples often couldn't afford to divorce. They feared neither spouse could manage alone.

Today, given the job losses of the past year, fewer unhappy couples will risk starting separate households. Furthermore, the housing market meltdown will make it more difficult for them to finance their separations by selling their homes.

After financial disasters family members also tend to do whatever they can to help each other and their communities. A 1940 book, *The Unemployed Man and His Family*, described a family in which the husband initially reacted to losing his job "with tireless search for work." He was always active, looking for odd jobs to do.

The problem is that such an impulse is hard to sustain. Across the country, many similar families were unable to maintain the initial boost in morale(士气). For some, the hardships of life without steady work eventually overwhelmed their attempts to keep their families together. The divorce rate rose again during the rest of the decade as the recovery took hold.

Millions of American families may now be in the initial stage of their responses to the current crisis, working together and supporting one another through the early months of unemployment.

Today's economic crisis could well generate a similar number of couples whose relationships have been irreparably(无法弥补地) ruined. So it's only when the economy is healthy again that we'll begin to see just how many broken families have been created.

57. In the initial stage, the current economic crisis is likely to _____.

- A) tear many troubled families apart B) contribute to enduring family ties
C) bring about a drop in the divorce rate D) cause a lot of conflicts in the family
58. In the Great Depression many unhappy couples close to stick together because _____.
A) starting a new family would be hard B) they expected things would turn better
C) they wanted to better protect their kids D) living separately would be too costly
59. In addition to job losses, what stands in the way of unhappy couples getting a divorce?
A) Mounting family debts. B) A sense of insecurity.
C) Difficulty in getting a loan. D) Falling housing prices.
60. What will the current economic crisis eventually do to some married couples?
A) It will force them to pull their efforts together.
B) It will undermine their mutual understanding.
C) It will help strengthen their emotional bonds.
D) It will irreparably damage their relationship.
61. What can be inferred from the last paragraph?
A) The economic recovery will see a higher divorce rate.
B) Few couples can stand the test of economic hardships.
C) A stable family is the best protection against poverty.
D) Money is the foundation of many a happy marriage.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

People are being lured(引诱) onto Facebook with the promise of a fun, free service without realizing they're paying for it by giving up loads of personal information. Facebook then attempts to make money by selling their data to advertisers that want to send targeted messages.

Most Facebook users don't realize this is happening. Even if they know what the company is up to, they still have no idea what they're paying for Facebook because people don't really know what their personal data is worth.

The biggest problem, however, is that the company keeps changing the rules. Early on you could keep everything private. That was the great thing about Facebook - you could create your own little private network. Last year, the company changed its privacy rules so that many things - your city, your photo, your friends' names - were set, by default(默认) to be shared with everyone on the Internet.

According to Facebook's vice-president Elliot Schrage, the company is simply making changes to improve its service, and if people don't share information they have a "less satisfying experience".

Some critics think this is more about Facebook looking to make more money. In original business model, which involved selling ads and putting them at the side of the pages, totally flopped. Who wants to look at ads when they're online connecting with their friends?

The privacy issue has already landed Facebook in hot water in Washington. In April, Senator Charles Schumer called on Facebook to change its privacy policy. He also urged the Federal Trade Commission to set guidelines for social-networking sites. "I think the senator

rightly communicated that we had not been clear about what the new products were and how people could choose to use them or not to use them," Schrage admits.

I suspect that whatever Facebook has done so far to invade our privacy, it's only the beginning. Which is why I'm considering deactivating(撤销) my account. Facebook is a handy site, but I'm upset by the idea that my information is in the hands of people I don't. That's too high a price to pay.

62. What do we learn about Facebook from the first paragraph?

- A) It is a website that sends messages to targeted users.
- B) It makes money by putting on advertisements.
- C) It profits by selling its users' personal data.
- D) It provides loads of information to its users.

63. What does the author say about most Facebook users?

- A) They are reluctant to give up their personal information.
- B) They don't know their personal data enriches Facebook.
- C) They don't identify themselves when using the website.
- D) They care very little about their personal information.

64. Why does Facebook make changes to its rules according to Elliot Schrage?

- A) To render better service to its users.
- B) To conform to the Federal guidelines.
- C) To improve its users' connectivity.
- D) To expand its scope of business.

65. Why does Senator Charles Schumer advocate?

- A) Setting guidelines for advertising on websites.
- B) Banning the sharing of users' personal information.
- C) Formulating regulations for social-networking sites.
- D) Removing ads from all social-networking sites.

66. Why does the author plan to cancel his Facebook account?

- A) He is dissatisfied with its current service.
- B) He finds many of its users untrustworthy.
- C) He doesn't want his personal data abused.
- D) He is upset by its frequent rule changes.

2012 年 12 月

第一套

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

I've worked in the factories surrounding my hometown every summer since I graduated from high school, but making the transition(转变) between school and full-time blue-collar work during the break never gets any easier. For a student like me who considers any class before noon to be uncivilized, getting to a factory by 6 o'clock each morning is torture. My friends never seem to understand why I'm so relieved to be back at school or that my summer vacation has been anything but a vacation.

There're few people as self-confident as a college student who has never been out in the real world. People my age always seem to overestimate the value of their time and knowledge. In fact, all the classes did not prepare me for my battles with the machine I ran in the plant, which would jam whenever I absent-mindedly put in a part backward or upside down.

The most stressful thing about blue-collar life is knowing your job could disappear overnight. Issues like downsizing(裁员) and overseas relocation had always seemed distant to me until my co-workers told me that the until I was working in would shut down within six months and move to Mexico, where people would work for 60 cents and hour.

After working 12-hour shifts in a factory, the other options have become only too clear. When I'm back at the university, skipping classes and turning in lazy re-writes seems too irresponsible after seeing what I would be doing without school. All the advice and public-service announcements about the value of an education that used to sound stale now ring true.

These lessons I'm learning, however valuable, are always tinged(带有) with sense of guilt. Many people pass their lives in the places I briefly work, spending 30 years where I spend only two months at a time. "This job pays well, but it's hell on the body," said one co-worker. "Study hard and keep reading," she added.

My experiences in the factories have inspired me to make the most of my college years before I enter the real world for good.

57. How did the author look back on his summer days while at college?
[A] They brought him nothing but torture. [B] They were no holiday for him at all.
[C] They were a relief from his hard work at school.
[D] They offered him a chance to know more people.
58. What does the author say about college students?
[A] They expect too much from the real world. [B] They have little interest in blue-collar life.
[C] They think too highly of themselves. [D] They are confident of their future.
59. What, according to the author, is most frustrating for blue-collar workers?
[A] They do not get decent pay. [B] They do not have job security.
[C] They have to work 12-hour shifts. [D] They have to move from place to place.
60. In what important way has the author's work experience changed him?
[A] He learned to be more practical. [B] He acquired a sense of urgency.
[C] He came to respect blue-collar workers. [D] He came to appreciate his college education.
61. Why does the author feel somewhat guilty?
[A] He realizes there is a great divide between his life and that of blue-collar workers.
[B] He looks down upon the mechanical work at the assembly life.
[C] He has not done much to help his co-workers at the factory.
[D] He has stayed at school just for the purpose of escaping from the real world.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

Are people suffering from gadget(小器具) overload? Are they exhausted by the consumer equivalent of the brain fatigue - information overload - that is caused by constant updates of devices and online media?

Underwriters Laboratories issued a report last week that found 48% of consumers "feel high-tech manufacturers bring new products to market faster than people need them."

There are two possible explanations. The first, obvious one is that the pace of innovation(创新) is too fast for consumers. The second, less obvious one is that, innovation is too slow. That is the new offerings companies are pushing out the door every six months or so are me-too products or ones with just a couple of new features. Marketing schedules, not product innovation, are driving the corporate(公司的) train. Manufacturers in American valued "spend to market" more than in other countries, the report found.

Sara Greenstein, Underwriters Laboratories' chief strategy officer, offered her interpretation of the survey results, "Innovation is too fast only if corners are cut."

For the high-tech sector, there are a few other interesting findings. Consumers are less concerned about safety in high-tech products than categories like fresh and processed food. But their top safety concerns are emissions and wireless radio waves. Many people, it seems, are uneasy living in a thickening cloud of radio waves from mobile phone towers and the gadgets they communicate with.

A finding that was a bit surprising is that to consumers, the inner parts of high-tech devices do apparently matter. Some 55% of consumers, according to the report, said they are

"more" concerned about high-tech components come from than where the product was assembled."

The report doesn't really say how that information would affect consumer buying decisions. It could be complicated. Manufacturing companies on average rely on more than 35 contract suppliers around the world to create a single product. That number would be higher for a smartphone or laptop.

But maybe some sort of supply-chain labeling showing where parts come from in a product? "We're working on it," Ms. Greenstein said.

62. What is the finding in Underwriters Laboratories' report about many consumers?

- [A] They are exhausted by the information overload.
- [B] They are tired of the constant updating of devices.
- [C] They feel products are updated faster than needed.
- [D] They have difficulty following high-tech innovations.

63. What does the author mean by "me-too products"?

- [A] Products with on substantial difference.
- [B] Products tailored to individual users.
- [C] Products everyone is eager to possess.
- [D] Products companies compete a make.

64. What do American businesses give priority to when marketing their products?

- [A] The constant updating of their technology.
- [B] The speed of putting them on the market.
- [C] The quality of their new products.
- [D] The pace of product innovation.

65. What is the consumers' chief concern about high-tech products?

- [A] User-friendliness.
- [B] Product quality.
- [C] Place of assembly.
- [D] Radio emissions.

66. Why does the author suggest supply-chain labeling?

- [A] It guarantees the safe shipping of products.
- [B] It promotes the competitiveness of the supplier.
- [C] Consumers care about where components are made.
- [D] Consumers tend to buy products they are familiar with.

第二套

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

As you are probably aware, the latest job markets news isn't good: Unemployment is still more than 9 percent, and new job growth has fallen close to zero. That's bad for the

economy, of course. And it may be especially discouraging if you happen to be looking for a job or hoping to change careers right now. But it actually shouldn't matter to you nearly as much as you think.

That's because job growth numbers don't matter to job hunters as much as job turnover(人员更替) data. After all, existing jobs open up every day due to promotions, resignations, terminations(解雇), and retirements. (Yes, people are retiring even in this economy.) In both good times and bad, turnover creates more openings than economic growth does. Even in June of 2007, when the economy was still moving ahead, job growth was only 132,000, while turnover was 4.7 million!

And as it turns out, even today - with job growth near zero - over 4 million job hunters are being hired every month.

I don't mean to imply that overall job growth doesn't have an impact on one's ability to land a job. It's true that if total employment were higher, it would mean more jobs for all of us to choose from (and compete for). And it's true that there are currently more people applying for each available job opening, regardless of whether it's a new one or not.

But what often distinguishes those who land jobs from those who don't is their ability to stay motivated. They're willing to do the hard work of identifying their valuable skills; be creative about where and how to look; learn how to present themselves to potential employers; and keep going, even after repeated rejections. The Bureau of Labor Statistics data shows that 2.7 million people who wanted and were available for work hadn't looked within the last four weeks and were no longer even classified as unemployed.

So don't let the headlines fool you into giving up. Four million people get hired every month in the U.S. You can be one of them.

57. The author tends to believe that high unemployment rate _____.

- A) deprives many people of job opportunities
- B) prevents many people from changing careers
- C) should not stop people from looking for a job
- D) does not mean the U.S. economy is worsening

58. Where do most job openings come from?

- A) Job growth. B) Job turnover. C) Improved economy. D) Business expansion.

59. What does the author say about overall job growth?

- A) It doesn't have much effect on individual job seekers.
- B) It increases people's confidence in the economy.
- C) It gives a ray of hope to the unemployed.
- D) It doesn't mean greater job security for the employed.

60. What is the key to landing a job according to the author?

- A) Education. B) Intelligence. C) Persistence. D) Experience.

61. What do we learn from the passage about the unemployment figures in the U.S.?

- A) They clearly indicate how healthy the economy is.
- B) They provide the public with the latest information.
- C) They warn of the structural problems in the economy.
- D) They exclude those who have stopped looking for a job.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

Our risk of cancer rises dramatically as we age. So it makes sense that the elderly should be routinely screened for new tumors - or doesn't it?

While such vigilant(警觉的) tracking of cancer is a good thing in general, researchers are increasingly questioning whether all of this testing is necessary for the elderly. With the percentage of people over age 65 expected to nearly double by 2050, it's important to weigh the health benefits of screening against the risks and costs of routine testing.

In many cases, screening can lead to surgeries to remove cancer, while the cancers themselves may be slow-growing and may not pose serious health problems in patients' remaining years. But the message that everyone must screen for cancer has become so deep-rooted that when health care experts recommended that women under 50 and over 74 stop screening for breast cancer, it caused a riotous reaction among doctors, patients and advocacy groups.

It's hard to uproot deeply held beliefs about cancer screening with scientific data. Certainly, there are people over age 75 who have had cancers detected by routine screening, and gained several extra years of life because of treatment. And clearly, people over age 75 who have other risk factors for cancer, such as a family history or prior personal experience with the disease, should continue to get screened regularly. But for the remainder, the risk of cancer, while increased at the end of life, must be balanced with other factors like remaining life expectancy(预期寿命).

A recent study suggests that doctors start to make more objective decisions about who will truly benefit from screening - especially considering the explosion of the elderly that will soon swell our population.

It's not an easy calculation to make, but one that makes sense for all patients. Dr. Otis Brawley said, "Many doctors are ordering screening tests purely to cover themselves. We need to think about the rational use of health care."

That means making some difficult decisions with elderly patients, and going against the misguided belief that when it comes to health care, more is always better.

62. Why do doctors recommend routine cancer screening for elderly people?

- A) It is believed to contribute to long life. B) It is part of their health care package.
- C) The elderly are more sensitive about their health.
- D) The elderly are in greater danger of tumor growth.

63. How do some researchers now look at routine cancer screening for the elderly?

- A) It adds too much to their medical bills. B) It helps increase their life expectancy.
- C) They are doubtful about its necessity. D) They think it does more harm than good.

64. What is the conventional view about women screening for breast cancer?

- A) It applies to women over 50. B) It is a must for adult women.
- C) It is optional for young women. D) It doesn't apply to women over 74.

65. Why do many doctors prescribe routine screening for cancer?

- A) They want to protect themselves against medical disputes.
- B) They want to take advantage of the medical care system.

C) They want data for medical research. D) They want their patients to suffer less.

66. What does the author say is the general view about health care?

A) The more, the better. B) Prevention is better than cure.

C) Better early than late. D) Better care, longer life.

第三套

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

It's no secret that some of the resolutions that many of us vowed to pursue in the new year—eat healthy, lose weight, quit smoking, save more money—have already fallen by the wayside.

Many of them are likely the same resolutions that we abandoned last January. And it's a good thing for those who sell health club memberships, quit-smoking programs and other products that help us think we can improve our lives.

Many gyms see new memberships double in January, making up for the third of their members who do not renew each year.

And many who sign up in January will be no-shows by February.

"If I try one quick fix and it doesn't work, I may be more likely to try the next quick fix," Lisa Lahey, who coaches executives how to sustain behavior change, told *The Times*.

The Biggest Loser Resort at Fitness Ridge doesn't offer any quick fixes, just a 12-hour schedule full of exercise, a 1,200-calories-a-day diet and a fee of \$2000 a week. The resort teaches its clients that "weight management" is a combination of fitness, diet and emotional health.

"Given my recent weight gain, and the fact that I was turning 50," Jennifer Conlin wrote in *The Times*, "I wanted to start a program that would make 2012 the year I finally got in shape."

"For years, the advice to the overweight people has been that we simply need to eat less and exercise more," Tara Parker-Pope wrote. "While there is truth to this guidance, it fails to take into account that the human body continues to fight against weight loss long after dieting has stopped. This translates into a sobering(令人清醒的) reality: once we become fat, most of us, despite our best efforts, will probably stay fat."

Of course this revelation(揭示), it proven true by further study, is not good news for the

weight-loss industry. But chances are it won't have much impact on the human tendency to resolve to get to the gym more and avoid chocolate cake when the clock strikes midnight on December 31.

57. What do we learn from the first paragraph about new year resolutions?

- A) They are hard to sustain. B) They test one's strength.
- C) They help shed bad habits. D) They promise a good year.

58. Who do new year resolutions eventually benefit?

- A) Society in general. B) Business executives. C) Health club members. D) Health industries.

59. What is special about the Biggest Loser Resort's weight management program?

- A) It gives top priority to emotional health. B) It does not resort to any quick fixes.
- C) It focuses on one's behavior change. D) It is not cheap but extremely effective.

60. What happens when people stop dieting?

- A) They regain their appetite. B) They usually stay in shape.
- C) Their weight bounces back. D) Their health is likely to fail.

61. What do people tend to do about new year resolutions?

- A) They keep making them year after year.
- B) They abandon them once progress is made.
- C) They keep trying until they finally succeed.
- D) They make them for the sake of making them.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

When University of California-Berkeley released a study this month showing alarmingly high teacher turnover(人员流动) rates at Los Angeles charter schools, I wasn't surprised.

That's not a slam at local charter schools. It's just that the study echoed something I'd observed many times, starting with my niece.

Bright and cheerful, my niece longed to teach high-needs children. She started out in the San Francisco public schools, where she was assigned to the district's toughest elementary school. Fifth-graders threw chairs across the room-and at her. Parents refused to show up for conferences.

She wasn't willing to deal with this level of indifference and teacher abuse, so she switched to a highly regarded charter elementary school in the Bay Area where she poured her energy into her job and it showed. Her students' test scores were as high as those in a nearby wealthy school district, despite the obstacles these children faced.

Yet by her fourth year, my niece was worn out, depleted(耗尽) of the energy it took to work with a classroom of sweet but deeply needy children who pleaded to stay in her classroom when it was time to leave. The principal's offer of a \$10000 raise couldn't stop her from giving notice. She went to work at that wealthy school district next door- for less money.

Over the years, I've met many impassioned(充满激情的) teachers at charter schools, only to call them the next year and find they've left. The authors of the Berkeley study

theorize that the teachers leave because of the extraordinary demands; long hours, intense involvement in students' complicated lives, continual searches for new ways to raise scores. Even the strongest supporters of the reform movement concede that the task of raising achievement among disadvantaged students is hard work.

It's unlikely that we can build large-scale school reform on a platform of continual new demands on teachers - more time, more energy, more devotion, more responsibility - even if schools find ways to pay them better. This is the bigger challenge facing schools. We need a more useful answer to the Berkeley study than "Yeah, it's really hard work."

62. Why wasn't the author surprised at the high teacher turnover rates at Los Angeles charter schools?

- A) She had participated in the Berkeley study.
- B) She had noticed the phenomenon repeatedly.
- C) She had been involved in the local school reform.
- D) She had been informed of the problem by her niece.

63. What do we learn about the students in the public school the author's niece taught?

- A) They were undisciplined.
- B) They were tough and strong.
- C) Many of them enjoyed less parental care.
- D) Many of them dropped out of school halfway.

64. What does the author say about her niece's work in the charter elementary school?

- A) It won high praise from her school and colleagues.
- B) It was cited by the Berkeley study as an example.
- C) It contributed to the success of the school reform.
- D) It was well received by the disadvantaged children.

65. Why were the teacher turnover rates so high according to the Berkeley study?

- A) The students were indifferent to learning.
- B) Teachers' salary was not high enough.
- C) Teachers' work was too demanding.
- D) Jobs elsewhere were more meaningful.

66. What is the author's comment on the current school reform movement?

- A) It will give rise to more problems.
- B) It is not likely to be successful.
- C) It will have a positive impact on education.
- D) It demands the local authorities' support.

2013 年 6 月

第一套

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

Junk food is everywhere. We're eating way too much of it. Most of us know what we're doing and yet we do it anyway.

So here's a suggestion offered by two researchers at the Rand Corporation: Why not take a lesson from alcohol control policies and apply them to where food is sold and how it's displayed?

"Many policy measures to control obesity(肥胖症) assume that people consciously and rationally choose what and how much they eat and therefore focus on providing information and more access to healthier foods," note the two researchers.

"In contrast," the researchers continue, "many regulations that don't assume people make rational choices have been successfully applied to control alcohol, a substance -- like food -- of which immoderate consumption leads to serious health problems."

The research references studies of people's behavior with food and alcohol and results of alcohol restrictions, and then lists five regulations that the researchers think might be promising if applied to junk foods. Among them:

Density restrictions: licenses to sell alcohol aren't handed out unplanned to all comers but are allotted(分配) based on the number of places in an area that already sell alcohol. These make alcohol less easy to get and reduce the number of psychological cues to drink.

Similarly, the researchers say, being presented with junk food stimulates our desire to eat it. So why not limit the density of food outlets, particularly ones that sell food rich in empty calories? And why not limit sale of food in places that aren't primarily food stores?

Display and sales restrictions: California has a rule prohibiting alcohol displays near the cash registers in gas stations, and in most places you can't buy alcohol at drive-through facilities. At supermarkets, food companies pay to have their wares in places where they're easily seen. One could remove junk food to the back of the store and ban them from the shelves at checkout lines. The other measures include restricting portion sizes, taxing and prohibiting special price deals for junk foods, and placing warning labels on the products.

57. What does the author say about junk food?
- A) People should be educated not to eat too much.
 - B) It is widely consumed despite its ill reputation.
 - C) Its temptation is too strong for people to resist.
 - D) It causes more harm than is generally realized.
58. What do the Rand researchers think of many of the policy measures to control obesity?
- A) They should be implemented effectively.
 - B) They provide misleading information.
 - C) They are based on wrong assumptions.
 - D) They help people make rational choices.
59. Why do policymakers of alcohol control place density restrictions?
- A) Few people are able to resist alcohol's temptations.
 - B) There are already too many stores selling alcohol.
 - C) Drinking strong alcohol can cause social problems.
 - D) Easy access leads to customers' over-consumption.
60. What is the purpose of California's rule about alcohol display in gas stations?
- A) To effectively limit the density of alcohol outlets.
 - B) To help drivers to give up the habit of drinking.
 - C) To prevent possible traffic jams in nearby areas.
 - D) To get alcohol out of drivers' immediate sight.
61. What is the general guideline the Rand researchers suggest about junk food control?
- A) Guiding people to make rational choices about food.
 - B) Enhancing people's awareness of their own health.
 - C) Borrowing ideas from alcohol control measures.
 - D) Resorting to economic, legal and psychological means

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

Kodak's decision to file for bankruptcy(破产) protection is a sad, though not unexpected, turning point for a leading American corporation that pioneered consumer photography and dominated the film market for decades, but ultimately failed to adapt to the digital revolution.

Although many attribute Kodak's downfall to "complacency(自满)," that explanation doesn't acknowledge the lengths to which the company went to reinvent itself. Decades ago, Kodak anticipated that digital photography would overtake film - and in fact, Kodak invented the first digital camera in 1975 - but in a fateful decision, the company chose to shelve its new discovery to focus on its traditional film business.

It wasn't that Kodak was blind to the future, said Rebecca Henderson, a professor at Harvard Business School, but rather that it failed to execute on a strategy to confront it. By the time the company realized its mistake, it was too late.

Kodak is an example of a firm that was very much aware that they had to adapt, and spent a lot of money trying to do so, but ultimately failed. Large companies have a difficult time switching into new markets because there is a temptation to put existing assets into the

new businesses.

Although Kodak anticipated the inevitable rise of digital photography, its corporate(企业的) culture was too rooted in the successes of the past for it to make the clean break necessary to fully embrace the future. They were a company stuck in time. Their history was so important to them. Now their history has become a liability.

Kodak's downfall over the last several decades was dramatic. In 1976, the company commanded 90% of the market for photographic film and 85% of the market for cameras. But the 1980s brought new competition from Japanese film company Fuji Photo, which undermined Kodak by offering lower prices for film and photo supplies. Kodak's decision not to pursue the role of official film for the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics was a major miscalculation. The bid went instead to Fuji, which exploited its sponsorship to win a permanent foothold in the marketplace.

62. What do we learn about Kodak?

- A) It went bankrupt all of a sudden. B) It is approaching its downfall.
- C) It initiated the digital revolution in the film industry.
- D) It is playing a dominant role in the film market.

63. Why does the author mention Kodak's invention of the first digital camera?

- A) To show its early attempt to reinvent itself.
- B) To show its effort to overcome complacency.
- C) To show its quick adaptation to the digital revolution.
- D) To show its will to compete with Japan's Fuji photo.

64. Why do large companies have difficulty switching to new markets?

- A) They find it costly to give up their existing assets.
- B) They tend to be slow in confronting new challenges.
- C) They are unwilling to invest in new technology.
- D) They are deeply stuck in their glorious past.

65. What does the author say Kodak's history has become?

- A) A burden. B) A mirror. C) A joke. D) A challenge.

66. What was Kodak's fatal mistake?

- A) Its blind faith in traditional photography. B) Its failure to see Fuji photo's emergence.
- C) Its refusal to sponsor the 1984 Olympics. D) Its overconfidence in its corporate culture.

第二套

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

Libraries are my world. I've been a patron(老主顾) all my life, and for the past nine years I've worked at multiple libraries and archives in and around Detroit. The library as an institution has many roles, but as our country struggles through an economic crisis, I have watched the library where I work evolve into a career and business center, a community gathering place and a bastion(堡垒) of hope.

In the spring of 2007 I got a library internship(实习生的位置) at the Southfield Public Library (SPL), just north of Detroit. Summers at SPL were usually slow, but that year, we experienced a library that was as busy as science-fair project week, midterms or tax season. Yet patrons weren't looking for Mosby's Nursing Drug Reference or tax return forms. They were coming for information on growing their small business.

I interpreted people's interest in our business collection as the first step to pursuing their dreams, but these patrons were not motivated by dreams. They were responding to reality, and they were looking for Plan B.

Things worsened in 2008, and in 2009 the economic crisis continues to plague Michigan. Last year, we put up a display with a variety of job resources that we restocked every hour. Each night the library closed, the display was bare. While we normally keep displays up for a week, we kept the job resources display up for months.

Then there's the tightening credit market. People see the writing on the wall and they want to get educated. They can't afford a financial adviser, but checking books out is free. Some of the most popular titles now are Rich Dad, Poor Dad. Think and Grow Rich, and Suze Orman's 2009 Action Plan.

The economic downturn affects us all. I have had to work long hours and don't get to see much of my boyfriend or experience any kind of social life lately, but I am thankful to be in a position where I can help people overcome this struggle. In Michigan, we haven't lost hope. As long as there are libraries here, there will always be hope.

57. What changes has the current economic crisis brought to the library?

- A) It has opened its age-old archives to the general public.
- B) It has become a job and business information center.
- C) It has evolved into a place for business transactions.
- D) It has had to cut its budget to get through the crisis.

58. What does the author say about the Southfield Public Library in the summer of 2007?

- A) It was overflowing with visitors. B) It launched a science project series.
- C) It added many books on business to its collection.
- D) It was full of people seeking information on drugs.

59. What can be inferred from people's strong interest in the library's business collection?

- A) They think it is now time to realize their dreams.
- B) They find economics helpful in tiding over the crisis.
- C) They consider it a trend to start their own business.
- D) They are concerned about the worsening economy.

60. Why were there no more job resources on display by the end of the day?

- A) The library staff could not do the restocking quickly enough.
- B) People competed with each other for the jobs listed in the ads.
- C) People were much interested in the job resources on display.
- D) All the materials on display were free of charge to the jobless.

61. How did the author feel about working in the library?

- A) She felt contented to be in a position to render help.
- B) She felt pleased to be able to give hope to the jobless.
- C) She felt rewarded to have gained a lot of experience.
- D) She felt sorry to miss the social life she used to enjoy.

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

More than three dozen billionaires, including well-known philanthropist(慈善家) David Rockefeller, have promised at least half of their fortunes to charity, joining a programme that Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffett started in June to encourage other wealthy people to give.

The pledge is currently worth about \$ 150 billion, but the programme predicts it will eventually be worth \$ 600 billion.

"During even the Depression's worst years, my parents gave money - about 8% of their annual income of \$ 2200," said Lorry Lokey, one of the donors, on the website of the programme, the Giving Pledge, "I remember saying to my mother that we can't afford that. But she said we have to share with others."

The pledge has been a matter of some debate in philanthropic and non-profit circles, with some experts dismissing it as mere publicity and others predicting that it would produce a flood of new money to support non-profit groups.

Buffett said the real value of the pledge was found in the example it set and in the sentiments(情感) expressed in the letters posted on the website.

Buffett and Gates will hold several dinners later this year to recruit more billionaires, and members of the Giving Pledge will meet annually to discuss their philanthropy.

The pair are due to meet some wealthiest people in China next month and India in March.

"We hope this catches fire in some other countries," Buffett said, "If they want to take what we think is a good idea and run with it, we will be cheering."

Buffett said the number of people who had agreed to sign on was at the high end of his expectations. He said some people who declined to sign the pledge were planning to give away most of their wealth but did not want to draw attention to those plans.

Energy tycoon(大亨) Pickens, who is worth about \$ 1 billion, said in his Giving Pledge letter: "I've long stated that I enjoy making money, and I enjoy giving it away. I'm not a big fan of inherited wealth. It generally does more harm than good."

62. What's the purpose of the programme started by Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffett?

- A) To spread the idea of charity around the world.
 - B) To publicise the pains and gains of charity work.
 - C) To involve more wealthy people in philanthropy.
 - D) To narrow the gap between the rich and the poor.
63. What message does Lorry Lokey intend to convey through his website posting?
- A) His family's income is far from large. B) The spirit of giving runs in his family.
 - C) His family suffered during the Great Depression.
 - D) The wealth of his family has come the hard way.
64. Why are Buffett and Gates going to meet some wealthiest people in China and India?
- A) To share their experience with the newly rich there.
 - B) To publicise their generosity in helping the needy.
 - C) To persuade the wealthy people there to join their ranks.
 - D) To help the billionaires there see the true value of money.
65. What reason do some people give for declining to sign the pledge?
- A) They are unsure if they can meet the public's expectations.
 - B) They have made plans for disposing of their wealth.
 - C) They are still undecided whether to give or not.
 - D) They are reluctant to be the focus of attention.
66. What does energy tycoon Pickens try to say in his Giving Pledge letter?
- A) Blessed are those who inherit large fortunes.
 - B) The more you give, the happier you will be.
 - C) Leaving a fortune to one's children is unwise.
 - D) Philanthropy can help free the poor the poor from want.

第三套

Section B

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on Answer Sheet 2 with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 57 to 61 are based on the following passage.

The Gatais used to frown when they received power bills that routinely topped \$200. Last September the couple moved into a 1 500-square-foot home in Premier Gardens, a subdivision of 95 "zero-energy homes" (ZEH) just outside town. Now they're actually eager to see their electricity bills. The grand total over the 10 months they've lived in the three-bedroom house: \$75. For the past two months they haven't paid a cent.

ZEH communities are the leading edge of technologies that might someday create houses that produce as much energy as they consume. Premier Gardens is one of a half-dozen subdivisions in California where every home cuts power consumption by 50%, mostly by using low-power appliances and solar panels.

Aside from the panels on the roof, Premier Gardens looks like a community of conventional homes. But inside, special windows cut power bills by blocking solar heat in summer and retaining indoor warmth in winter.

The rest of the energy savings comes from the solar units. They don't just feed the home they serve. If they generate more power than the home is using, the excess flows into the utility's power grid(电网). The residents are billed by "net metering": they pay for the amount of power they tap off the grid, less the kilowatts(千瓦) they feed into it. If a home generates more power than it uses, the bill is zero.

That sounds like a bad deal for the power company, but it's not. Solar homes produce the most power on the hot sunny afternoons when everyone rushes home to turn up the air conditioner. "It helps us lower usage at peak power times," says solar expert Mike Keesee. "That lets us avoid building costly plants or buying expensive power at peak usage time."

What's not to like? Mostly the costs. The special features can add \$25000 or more to the purchase price of a house. Tax breaks bring the cost down, especially in California, but in many states ZEHs can be prohibitively expensive. For the consumer, it's a matter of paying now for the hardware to save later on the utilities.

57. Why are the Gatais eager to see their electricity bills now?

- A) They want to see how much they have saved.
- B) They want to cut down their utility expenses.
- C) They want to know if they are able to pay.
- D) They want to avoid being overcharged.

58. What is special about the ZEH communities?

- A) They have created cutting-edge technologies.
- B) They aim to be self-sufficient in power supply.
- C) They are subdivided into half a dozen sections.
- D) They are built in harmony with the environment.

59. How are the residents in the ZEH communities billed for electricity use?

- A) They are only charged for the amount of power they consume on rainy days.
- B) They needn't pay a single cent for their power consumption on sunny days.
- C) They only pay for the excess power that flows into the utility's power grid.
- D) They pay for the electricity from the grid less their home-generated power.

60. What does the "net metering" practice mean to the power company?

- A) More pressure at peak time. B) Less profits in the short term.
- C) Increased electricity output. D) Reduced operational costs.

61. The author believes that buying a house in a ZEH community _____.

- A) is but a dream for average consumers B) gives the owner substantial tax benefits
- C) is a worthy investment in the long run D) contributes to environmental protection

Passage Two

Questions 62 to 66 are based on the following passage.

Romantic love has clear evolutionary roots but our views about what makes an ideal romantic relationship can be swayed by the society we live in. So says psychologist Maureen O'Sullivan from the University of San Francisco. She suggests that humans have always tried to strengthen the pair-bond to maximise(使最大化) reproductive success.

Many societies throughout history and around the world today have cultivated strong pressures to stay married. In those where ties to family and community are strong, lifelong marriages can be promoted by practices such as the cultural prohibition of divorce and arranged marriages that are seen as a contract between two families, not just two individuals. In modern western societies, however, the focus on individuality and independence means that people are less concerned about conforming to(遵守) the dictates of family and culture. In the absence of societal pressures to maintain pair-bonds, O'Sullivan suggests that romantic love has increasingly come to be seen as the factor that should determine who we stay with and for how long. "That's why historically we see an increase in romantic love as a basis for forming long-term relationships," she says.

According to O'Sullivan culture also shapes the sorts of feelings we expect to have, and actually do experience, when in love. Although the negative emotions associated with romantic love-fear of loss, disappointment and jealousy-are fairly consistent across cultures, the positive feelings can vary. "If you ask Japanese students to list the positive attributes they expect in a romantic partner, they rate highly things like loyalty, commitment and devotion," says O'Sullivan. "If you ask American college women, they expect everything under the sun: in addition to being committed, partners have to be amusing, funny and a friend."

We judge a potential partner according to our specific cultural expectations about what romantic love should feel like. If you believe that you have found true romance, and your culture tells you that this is what a long-term relationship should be based on, there is less need to rely on social or family pressures to keep couples together. O'Sullivan argues.

62. What does the author say about people's views of an ideal romantic relationship?

- A) They vary from culture to culture.
- B) They ensure the reproductive success.
- C) They reflect the evolutionary process.
- D) They are influenced by psychologists.

63. We can infer from the passage that strong family and community ties _____.

- A) largely rely on marriage contracts
- B) can contribute to stable marriages
- C) often run counter to romantic love
- D) make divorces virtually unacceptable

64. Without social pressures to keep pair-bonds, romantic love _____.

- A) will be a substitute for marriage in human relationships
- B) plays a key role in maintaining long-term relationships
- C) is likely to replace the dictates of family and society
- D) is a way to develop individuality and independence

65. O'Sullivan believes that when people from different cultures fall in love, _____.

- A) they expect different things from their partner
- B) they tend to exaggerate each other's positive qualities
- C) they often fail to see each other's negative qualities

D) they lay more emphasis on commitment and devotion

66. We can conclude from the passage that _____.

A) cultural differences often tear apart a family built on romantic love

B) marriages are hard to sustain without social or family pressures

C) romantic love is becoming increasingly important in family relationships

D) romantic love tends to yield where family or social pressures are strong

答案

2006 年 12 月

57-61 CBDAB 62-66 CBDBC

2007 年 6 月

57-61 DBCBA 62-66 BACDC

2007 年 12 月

57-61 ACDCB 62-66 DBCAB

2008 年 6 月

57-61 DDABB 62-66 ACBDD

2008 年 12 月

57-61 ABADB 62-66 BCBAC

2009 年 6 月

57-61 ADDAB 62-66 BCBAC

2009 年 12 月

57-61 ABDCA 62-66 ABDAC

2010 年 6 月

57-61 CACCA 62-66 BABCB

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